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AGAWAM *Advertiser·News*

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Volume IX Number 50

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

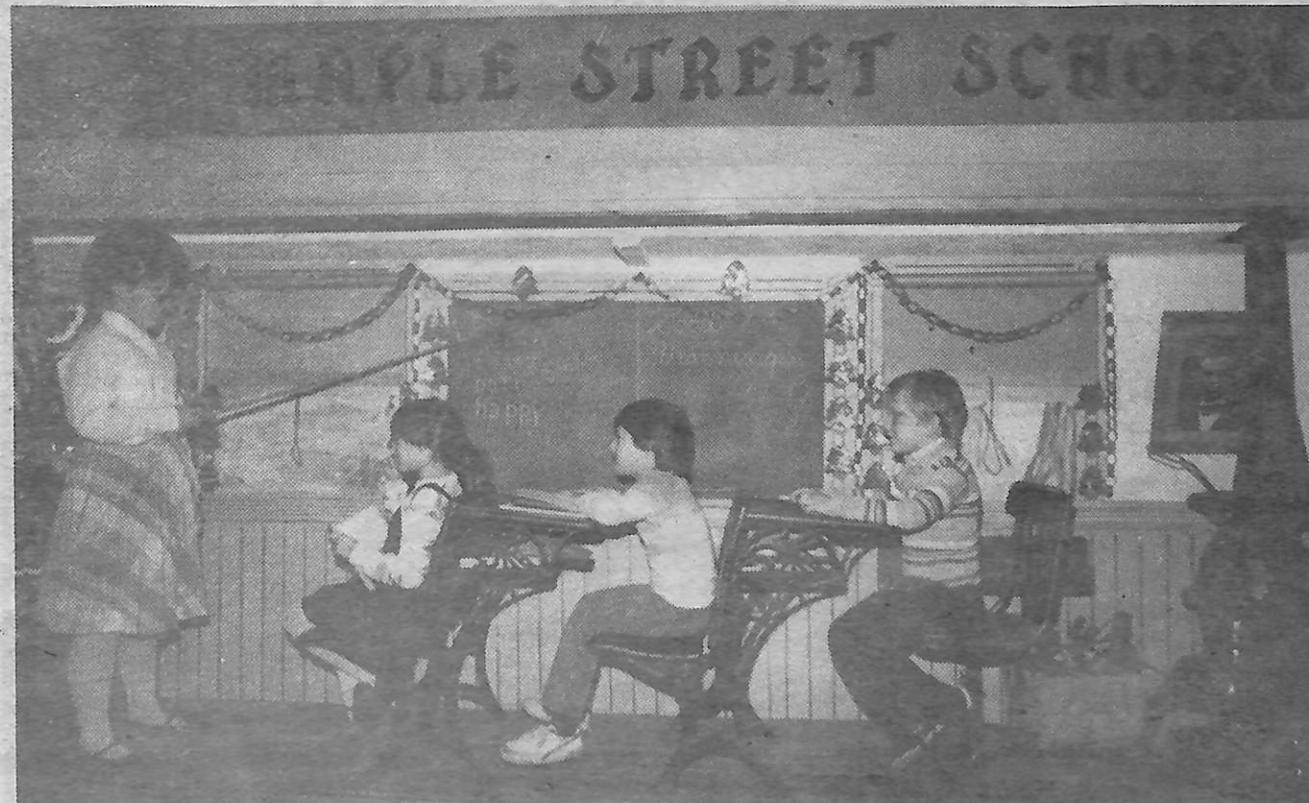
December 18, 1986

Sacred Heart To Host "Family Celebration"



SACRED HEART CHURCH in Feeding Hills and its "I Am Special" Classes will hold a Family Christmas Celebration at 4:00 p.m., Christmas Eve. In photo above, the children rehearse a very familiar scene at Christmas - The Nativity. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Robinson Park's "Old Maple Street School"



THE SHOWCASE OF ROBINSON PARK SCHOOL turned into a miniature schoolroom for a special project. Here, student Trish Sandstrom plays the role of the teacher to students Holly Moren, Scott Murphy, and Mario Santillo. The "Old Maple Street School" is a replica of an old schoolhouse of many years ago. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Town Taking Good Look At Dog Situation

by Dale Fiske
Advertiser News Political Editor

An eight-member committee has been appointed by Town Manager Reid S. Charles to address the growing dog control problem in Agawam.

An organizational meeting was held November 24th, with Chief of Police Stanley J. Chmielewski presiding. Any recommendations made by the Dog Control Study Commission must be approved by Town Council, according to Chmielewski. The committee was formed when several councilors voiced concerns to Charles over the apparent increase of stray dogs roaming the town.

Chmielewski told us, "The attitudes about animals differs greatly throughout town. We would like to find a solution to the problem we face. We are looking for open minds. It is great to find people who care enough to get involved," Chmielewski said of the newly-formed commission.

Charles added, "We have entered into this project without pre-set ideas about what a dog officer should be or what dog enforcement should be. The commission should establish criteria for what they feel is best for Agawam."

Presently, the town subcontracts with Santo DiSpiri of Southwick, owner of Congamond Kennels, to be the town's dog officer.

Charles said commission members were chosen to represent a cross-section of citizens from different neighborhoods and backgrounds, according to Charles.

At a meeting Tuesday, December 16th, commission members Minnie Punch, William Brezinski, and William Ekstedt elected former Precinct 2 Town Councilor Daniel J. Lacienski as chairman, and Cindy Olson, vice chairman. Lydia Rogel, also a member of the group, was absent.

Commission members brainstormed ideas on the issue they wish to address in upcoming weeks. Among these issues are what can be done to house the dogs; what can be done if Dog Officer DiSpiri is not available for a call; and what to do and where to place wounded animals. Commission members agreed to call for a public hearing to receive residential input.

The commission also discussed the Hampden County Dog Control Center, which recently-opened in Chicopee. Lacienski said that when the facility was initially explained to Agawam, "It was a great idea for the City of Springfield, but didn't seem to include many positive things for Agawam."

The town has rejected membership in the county pound, and also staged a political fight several years ago when the County Commission was seriously looking into situating the county pound in county-owned land in Feeding Hills.

Mrs. Punch noted that because Agawam receives revenue from dog licenses and fines, the money should stay in Agawam, as well as the dog control supervision.

SEE DOGS - Page 2...

Council Supports Bond For School

by Dale Fiske
Advertiser News Political Editor

Town Council members voted unanimously to support a \$1.1 bond issue for repairs to the Agawam Middle School. According to Town Manager Reid S. Charles, the council action becomes law in 20 days.

Charles is in the process of selecting a Designer Selection Committee for the project. That committee will advertise for an architect to tackle the job of getting the school repaired.

Town Building Maintenance official Tony Albro gave a video presentation to councilors Monday night, while explaining in what areas the school needs repairs.

In addition to a new roof, Albro said Monday night, all windows need to be replaced; the gymnasium floor is rotted and unsafe for the children to use; the skylight above the gymnasium needs to be removed, covered, and a roof installed over the top; and a circulation system must be added to the heating system.

Albro said the heating system is 65 years-old, but is in good shape. According to Albro, proper air circulation is mandated by the Commonwealth and must be complied with by law. The roof over the cafeteria remains in good condition (placed in 1963), he told councilors. Albro said after repairs are completed, the building will be energy efficient and heating costs will be reduced.

Superintendent of Schools James V. Bruno, Jr., commented that the middle school is "basically a good, sound structure and well-worth fixing." Bruno pointed

DOGS - From Page 1...

Town Clerk Richard Theroux explained to commission members their present program in the community for dog control at Tuesday's meeting. He said, "Agawam spends \$32,000 per year for its dog control program. Included in that money are the dog officer's salary, town vehicle, expenses for upkeep and maintenance of both dogs and kennels, and also provides for dog claims."

DiSpirit addressed the commission Tuesday and explained his duties and methods used to do the job.

In upcoming weeks, the commission will be reviewing the new regional pound, and will invite officials from the regional facility to discuss the new facility. The commission will also hear from officials from other areas on how they control their dog situation. The commission, said Lacienski, will rely on input from the Police Department as well.

out that classroom space in the community is at a premium. "Within a few years we will need room for about 400 to 500 more elementary children. To build a new facility would cost in excess of \$7 million."

Joseph Flahive from the Massachusetts Department of Education explained to the council Monday night that in order for the town to file for state money for the project, the school will have to be made accessible to the handicapped.

According to Flahive, when the town approached the state for funds to replace the middle school roof, the town was refused. "The state has been waiting for the town to put an elevator in the middle school for six years, and it was not done," said Flahive.

An elevator would give handicapped students access to the building and "could be used by workmen carrying maintenance and repair supplies," said Flahive.

An elevator, said Albro, would cost between \$135,000 to \$150,000.

Flahive added, "The basic agreement between the town and the state is that if Agawam proceeds, they will receive money for the roof and the elevator."

Flahive said the state will reimburse the town between 65 to 75 percent for the total cost of the project. These percentages reflect the 1987 rates. The percentages of reimbursement to a community are determined by the number of children attending town schools and by equalized valuations, Flahive concluded.

State Rep. Walsh Slates Office Hours For Dec. 19th

Representative Michael P. Walsh (D-Agawam) will be holding office hours for his Agawam constituents, Friday, December 19th, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

These hours will be held at the Agawam Senior Center at Meadowbrook Manor.

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Teachers' Union Set To Expand On Action Of "Work To Rule"

The Agawam Education Association will expand its work-to-rule action January 5th to protest stalled contract talks and the break-off of negotiations by the school committee.

"The new action will mean the suspension of teacher participation in all voluntary student enrichment activities," said AEA President Gail Dion. There are about 150 such activities at Agawam's seven schools.

Since December 1st, Agawam teachers have followed a modified work-to-rule procedure, which means teachers enter and leave their schools together at the required times, "as a display of teacher unity," Mrs. Dion explained.

"We deeply regret having to take this course of action," she said, "but the school committee has left us no choice."

The AEA's decision follows an unsuccessful mediation session December 11th, during which the School Committee broke off talks and called for fact-finding, Mrs. Dion said. Fact-finding involves a non-binding review by a neutral third party, who interviews both sides and writes a report.

"The School Committee's move can only lengthen our already protracted negotiations," Mrs. Dion said. "Ultimately, the School Committee will have to return to the table to reach a settlement. And, besides being time-consuming and non-binding, fact-finding is expensive. We believe there are better ways to spend our time and taxpayers money."

Mrs. Dion stressed that the AEA was "ready, willing, and able to return to the bargaining table at any time."

Agawam teachers, said Mrs. Dion, have been working without a contract since August 31st, and have been negotiating with the School Committee for nine months. Unresolved issues include the School Committee's attempt to extend the school day by 15 minutes (the equivalent of seven full days per year) without extra pay to teachers; salaries; and inequities with sick leave and non-teaching duties, according to Mrs. Dion.

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Agawam Obituaries

Ramon M. Wojcik

Ramon M. Wojcik, 71, of 52 Belvidere Avenue, Feeding Hills, a 17-year building inspector for the City of Springfield, died in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

Born in Ware, he lived in Feeding Hills 37 years. He was previously a 30-year manager for First National Stores. His wife, the former Marion Warnock, died in 1964.

He leaves a son, Ross A. of Feeding Hills; four brothers, Walter, Theodore, Joseph and Alvin, all of Ware, and two sisters, Mary Trecsh of Indian Orchard, and Julia Czarnik of Dover, New Hampshire.

The funeral was at Colonial Funeral Home with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Richard D. Maynard

Richard D. Maynard, 61, of 72 Granger Drive, Feeding Hills, a 36-year photoengraver for the Springfield Newspapers, died in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

Born in Charleston, West Virginia, he was an Army Air Forces veteran of World War II.

He leaves his wife, the former Nellie Barden; a son, Richard of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; a stepson, Stanley Harwood of Winter Haven, Florida; three brothers, Raymond in Vermont, and Paul, and Roy, both in California; two sisters, Bonnie Cassas in North Carolina, and Donna Clayton in Florida.

A graveside service was at Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield. Curran-Jones Funeral Home, West Springfield, was in charge. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 57 Suffolk Street, Holyoke, MA, 01040.

John A. Mokszin

John A. Mokszin, 70, of 70 Valentine Street, a retired superintendent of Foundries at Jahn Foundry Corporation, Springfield, died in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

He worked at the foundry for 29 years and retired in 1981. Born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, he lived in Norwalk, Connecticut, before moving to Agawam 29 years ago. He attended Bridgeport Institute of Engineering.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific Theatre as a metalsmith second-class.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

He leaves his wife, the former Frances J. Connolly; two daughters, Sharon Avery of Howell, New Jersey, and Catherine Romanko of Longmeadow; two sisters, Elizabeth Anderson, and Ann Schede, both of Fairfield, Connecticut, and five grandchildren.

The funeral was at Colonial Funeral Home and in the church with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.



ROBERTA G. DOERING, member of the Baystate Medical Center board of governors.

Community Savings Bank Declares Year-End Dividend

The Board of Directors of Community Savings Bank (CSBN-NASDAQ) declared a cash dividend of \$.06 per share on the 4,544,080 shares outstanding. The dividend is payable January 15th, 1987, to shareholders of record at the close of business December 31st, 1986.

Roy A. Scott, president and chief executive officer of Community Savings Bank, commented today that the dividend declaration reflects record earnings in the most recent quarter ended September 30th, 1986, and management's confidence in the bank's future financial performance.

Community Savings Bank had assets of \$506.8 million as of September 30th, 1986. It has 15 regional branch offices, and is one of the leading residential mortgage lenders in Western Massachusetts. Community Savings Bank has a real estate brokerage subsidiary (Landry, Lyons & Whyte Co.), full service investment brokerage (Invest), and life insurance operations (SBLI), as well as commercial lending operations.

Roberta G. Doering On Governing Board

Four prominent members of the Greater Springfield Community have been elected to serve on governing boards of Baystate Medical Center at the Medical Center's Annual Meeting, Tuesday, December 9th.

Elected to the board of Trustees will be Roberta G. Doering of 915 River Road, Agawam, Joseph D. LoBello of 534 Pinewood Drive, Longmeadow, and James A. Pierson of 22 Bittersweet Lane, Wilbraham.

Elected to the Board of Overseers will be Clifford G. Brockmeyer of 985 Longmeadow Street, Longmeadow.

Mrs. Doering is a member of the Agawam School Committee. She has served on the School Board for more than 17 years, and is the president of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

She is a member of the Springfield Library and Museum Associations, and is active in the YMCA, having served as the first woman president of the Springfield YMCA.

LoBello is executive vice president of Bank of New England-West. He is a director of the Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency, chairman of the Mayor's Economic Development Task Force, and treasurer and director of the Westover Metropolitan Development Corporation. He serves on a number of civic oriented boards.

Pierson is senior vice president with the Farm Credit Banks of Springfield. He is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Buffalo. He is also a graduate of the Advanced Management Program of the Harvard Business School.

Brockmeyer is president and chief executive officer of Quabbin Industries, Inc. He is also a director of Our Lady of Providence Children's Center, chairman of the National Tooling and Machinery Association and the National Insurance Committee, and past-chairman of the National Alliance of Business.

Baystate Medical Center is the flagship hospital of the Baystate Health System, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing a wide variety of health care services in Western New England.

EARLY DEADLINE:
Please remember our deadline is Saturday morning for next week

MUNICIPAL EVENTS

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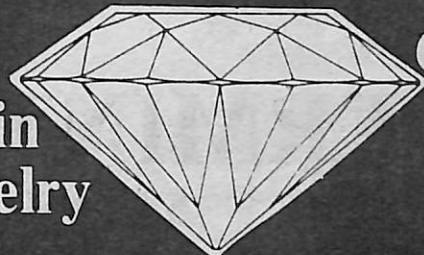
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LET'S SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Sponsored by the Agawam School Committee

Teacher negotiations have been ongoing for over eight months with the Agawam Education Association, but no agreement has been reached, as yet. In the past several weeks, the teachers' union has chosen to carry negotiations and obtain support for their position in the media.

The Agawam School Committee believes it has an obligation to set the record straight on its position for the future educational benefits for Agawam children.

To state the facts as simply as possible, the Agawam School Committee has offered a wage increase of 6% - 6% - 6½% for a three-year contract and an additional fifteen minutes per day of instructional time. The teachers' union says no - and will only accept the wage increase, not the additional time.

Every report on education excellence, including the President's Commission, the Department of Education, and the State Commissioner of Education, recommends longer school days and 20 to 40 additional school days per year to increase educational standards and to help students improve their education.

Collective bargaining translates to give and take. If one desires something of value, one gives something of value. It's as simple as that. Every objection of the teachers' union begins and ends with a pay raise or some fringe benefits for its members.

The union's approach to bargaining seems that the path to an adequate education is only through higher salaries. The committee's offer of a 3-year contract, totaling 18½% would represent, for most union members, approximately a \$5,000 pay increase; this in return for **15 minutes a day of added instructional time over a 180-day work year to benefit the students of Agawam.**

Agawam has the shortest secondary work day in our immediate area; it is the unanimous decision of the Agawam School Committee that this be corrected.

The following survey of area school systems illustrates the length of the school day/school year and salaries in support of the committee's position on this issue.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS - HIGH SCHOOL TIME & SALARY

| School System | School Time | Total Daily, Hrs./Min. | Salary: Master's Maximum | Salary Rank | Teachers' Work Days/Yr. |
|------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Wilbraham | 7:35 - 1:51 | 6 hr. 15 min. | \$30,236 | 1 | 182 |
| Longmeadow | 7:45 - 2:15 | 6 hr. 30 min. | 29,547 | 2 | 182 |
| East Longmeadow | 7:45 - 2:10 | 6 hr. 20 min. | 28,959 | 3 | 182 |
| Ludlow | 7:35 - 2:05 | 6 hr. 30 min. | 27,104 | 4 | 181 |
| Northampton | 7:50 - 2:20 | 6 hr. 30 min. | 26,822 | 5 | 181 |
| AGAWAM | 7:40 - 1:40 | 6 hr. | 26,814* | 6 | 181 |
| Westfield | 7:40 - 2:00 | 6 hr. 20 min. | 26,808 | 7 | 182 |
| South Hadley | 7:55 - 2:10 | 6 hr. 5 min. | 26,735 | 8 | 182 |
| Chicopee | 7:45 - 2:30 | 6 hr. 45 min. | 26,410 | 9 | 181 |
| West Springfield | 7:35 - 2:28 | 6 hr. 45 min. | 26,355 | 10 | 182 |
| Springfield | 7:55 - 2:10 | 6 hr. 15 min. | 26,033 | 11 | 181 |
| Southwick | 7:50 - 2:05 | 6 hr. 15 min. | 24,606 | 12 | 182 |

*Offered

NOTE: Agawam has a short school year, the shortest school day and a comparable salary.

On average, an Agawam High School student, compared to the above schools, will lose 39 days of instructional time over his 3-year high school experience. Yet, the president of the teachers' union says the added time will not have any additional significance for the students.

In reference to the **check-in/check-out system**, the administration has a right to know whether or not a teacher is in the building at the beginning of school. One basic reason, among others, is the issue of pupil safety when pupils may be left unsupervised in a classroom if a teacher has not reported for work because of illness or accident.

The committee believes its salary offer is fair and equitable. Eighty percent (80%) of the school budget is for teachers' salaries. Recent Chapter 188 legislation, with School Committee approval, that was required for its allocation, awarded an \$1,100 one-time bonus for all teachers.

The committee is not anti-teacher as some would indicate, and stands ready to negotiate a fair contract and to provide a quality education for our children within a sound framework of fiscal responsibility.

As the situation presently stands, it would appear that the bottom line in all these negotiations is that the teachers' union wants to continue working the shortest day, with a comparable salary, and does not wish to be accountable for their time.

Reed Street Fire Causes \$10,000 In Damages



THE AGAWAM FIRE DEPARTMENT reported that a fire on Friday, December 12th, at lunchtime, caused over \$10,000 in damage. Fire officials said the owners of the home are Frank & Mary Barstow.

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

FIRE-WISE

by Rusty Jenks - Agawam Fire Chief

Give A Gift That Saves Lives

Looking for a novel gift that says you really care? The Agawam Fire Department suggests you consider smoke detectors, fire escape ladders, and portable fire extinguishers as gifts to family and friends. In addition to providing an interesting gift, these items can save lives.

When shopping for smoke detectors, buy the battery-operated kind for protection, even when power is knocked out. Include some extra batteries as well. It takes only a screwdriver and a stool to install most detectors.

In fact, install the detector as part of your thoughtful gift to ensure it is put up immediately. Detectors should be placed outside sleeping areas between the bedrooms and the rest of the house. They should be located on the ceiling, away from walls, corners, and air ducts.

Additional detectors should be installed in separate sleeping areas or to protect against garage and basement fires. The fire department can provide details on the best locations for detectors in your home.

In several instances, smoke detectors given as holiday gifts have saved lives in the first few days. Even detectors still packed in their boxes under the Christmas tree have sounded in fires, saving their surprised new owners from holiday fires.

When purchasing fire extinguishers, get an ABC multipurpose type. That means it can be used on any type of small fire to put it out quickly. Make sure the gift's recipient reads the label and instructions carefully and learns how to use the extinguisher properly. It's easy to learn, but there is not time to learn once a fire has started.

Fire extinguishers should be kept in homes—especially kitchens, garages, and basements, as well as cars, boats, campers, and trailers.

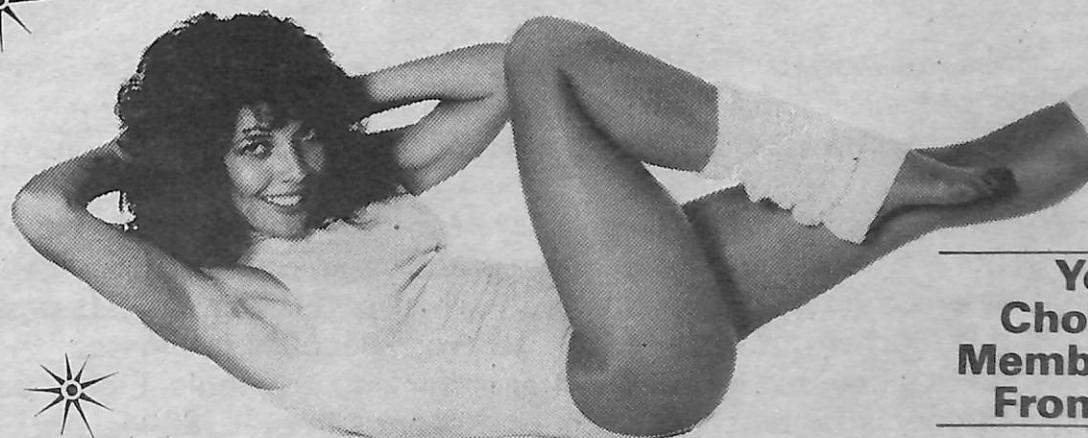
Home fire escape ladders should be 15- to 20-feet long and lightweight enough to be used by a child. Too often, people are trapped in second-story rooms during a fire with no safe way to get down. Despite movies

and stories, the fact is that there will not be enough time in a fire to tie bedsheets together! Keep the ladders stacked carefully under the window or coiled under the bed. Check them from time to time to ensure they have not become tangled. You can purchase these metal ladders in most hardware stores.

In fact, why not be your own friend as well? While buying these gifts for your loved ones, pick up spares for yourself.

When buying these or similar merchandise, always look for the UL label. The Underwriters Laboratory tests items to ensure they pass certain safety tests.

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PAMELA BRIGGS of Feeding Hills was recently promoted by Northeast Utilities.

NU Names Pamela Briggs Community Relations Mgr.

Pamela M. Briggs of Feeding Hills has been appointed to the position of Regional Community Relations manager for the Western Massachusetts Region of Northeast Utilities, as announced by Frank R. Locke, regional vice president.

Ms. Briggs was employed as Community Relations manager for McDonald's Corporation, General Assistance administrator for the Town of Freeport, Maine, and for the past three years, has been information manager for Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company.

Ms. Briggs is a graduate of the University of Maine, with a b.a. degree in liberal arts-social work, and has done advanced study in interpersonal communications.

Active in community affairs, she is a member of the Board of Directors, American Red Cross; Greater Springfield League of Women Voters; Electric Council of New England; Valley Press Club; and the Ad Club of Western Massachusetts.

Ms. Briggs and her two children, Christopher and Shelby, reside in Feeding Hills.

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THE REVEREND LEONARD COWAN (center) of St. David's Church, Feeding Hills, presents Pony Express General Managers William Tourville (left) and Gerald Link with "Certificates of Appreciation" for a successful "Ride."

Pony Express Project Goes Big At St. David's

St. David's Church Route Riders and Trail Bosses can hang up their spurs with pride—The Parish Pony Express finance campaign has gone over the top!

One hundred forty-eight members of the parish made "Estimates of Giving" for the coming year, totaling over \$83,000, before the Pony Express reached the end of the trail.

These estimates surpassed the campaign goal of \$74,000 by over \$9,000. These estimates were considerably higher than the previous record budget pledges of \$69,000 set in 1986.

"We trusted our parishioners to act responsibly, and they did," the Reverend Leonard Cowan, rector of St. David's, said. "In these times of economic uncertainty,

our parishioners showed they have a great deal of faith and willingness to share generously what they have."

"It is clear that the Pony Express program sparked considerable enthusiasm. Everyone worked together, just like the Pony Express riders of old," added Rev. Cowan.

William Tourville and Gerald Link, general managers, praised the dedication of the Station Agents, Trail Bosses, and Route Riders, whose cooperation efforts enabled the "parish mail" to be carried in saddlebags across the community.

"Certificates of Appreciation" will be mailed to each person who filled in an "Estimate of Giving Card." Similar certificates were presented to key leaders of the campaign.

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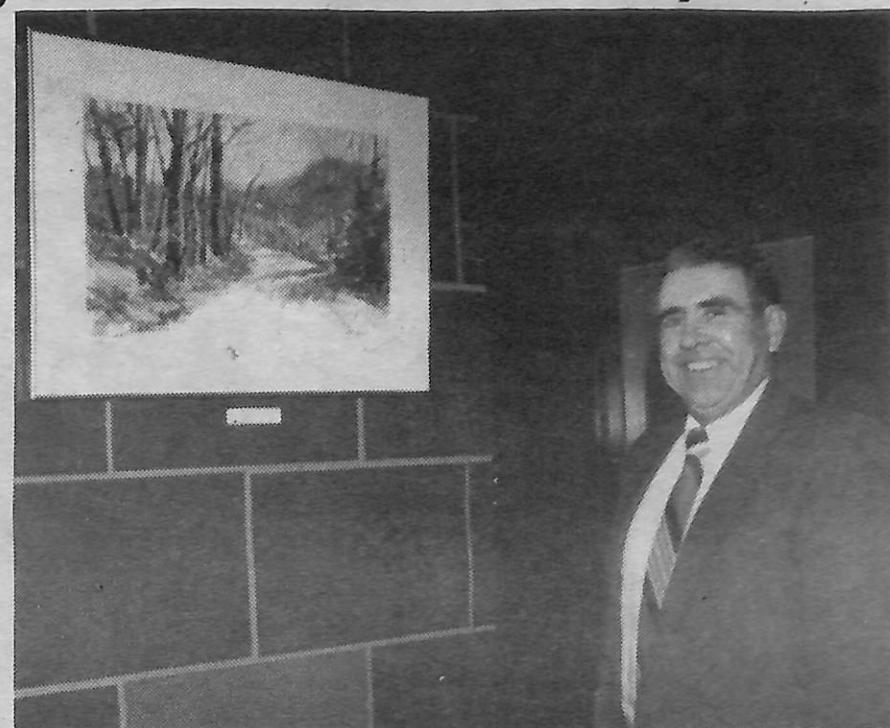
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Your Hosts - Frank Bruno And Family

Casa di Ago



John Wiley, Jr., New Visiting Artist At Public Library



LOCAL ARTIST JOHN WILEY, JR., of Agawam, is the latest visiting artist at the Agawam Public Library. His works will be on display at the library through the end of the month. A "Meet The Artist Night" was held Monday, December 15th, for Wiley. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Santa, Will You Please Give...



AT THE RECENT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH bazaar, the Christian girls, Elizabeth, 6, and KatieAnne, 5, give St. Nick a long list of presents they are hoping to find under their Christmas tree on December 25th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Pedestrian Safety Award



FRANCIS J. MALONEY, JR., general manager of the Auto Club of Pioneer Valley (left), presents Safety Officer Al Longi of the town's Police Department with a "Pedestrian Safety Citation" as Police Chief Stanley J. Chmielewski looks on. The town has not had a pedestrian fatality in five years. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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MORE FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

by Vi Massoia

ADAM MATTHEW CORBIN came into the world on November 26th weighing 8 pounds, 13½ ounces, and was 23 inches long. Adam is the second child of **BILL & SUE CORBIN** of Northwestfield Street, Feeding Hills. "Big sister" **ERIN**, who is 2½ years-old, anxiously awaited his arrival. Proud grandparents of Adam are **YOSHIKO HAYDEN** of Agawam, **NORMAN HAYDEN** of Rhode Island, and **DONALD & PATRICIA CORBIN** of LaPlace, Louisiana.

Congratulations to the Corbin's on their new arrival.

Belated birthday wishes to **JOHN BENJAMIN** of Feeding Hills. He celebrated his birthday November 29th.

Happy Birthday wishes to **LOU MASSOIA** from his family. He celebrated his birthday on December 11th.

Congratulations to **MARYLOU & CHRIS GANSSLE** of Falls Church, Virginia, on the birth of their son, **KEVIN ANDRE**, who was born October 30th at 3:25 p.m., weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and measuring 21 inches long.

Congratulations also to Kevin's grandfather, **CHARLES CALABRESE** of Agawam.

Welcome to the world **LUKE HENRY LABORGNE**, the third son of **MELANIE & VERNON LABORGNE** of Main Street, West Springfield. He was born November 15th, and weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces, and measured 20½ inches long.

Waiting for their new baby brother to come live with them were six year-old **DANIEL**, and 2½-year-old **DARYL**.

Proud grandpa on Dad's side is **CHARLES KNOWLTON** of Westfield. Grandparents on Mom's side are **VIVIAN MOULTON** of Bernardston, Massachusetts, and **HAROLD THERIAQUE** of Springfield.

Luke is the 12th great-grandchild of **LEE ZAMBELLI** of Van Deene Avenue, West Springfield, and she formerly lived 23 years on New York Avenue, Feeding Hills.

Congratulations to the Laborgne family.

Members of the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street gathered on a recent evening to celebrate Advent, the four weeks before Christmas. During that time, children open a little window on their Advent calendar (every day) to count the days until Christmas, and every Sunday an additional candle is lit of the four candles on the Advent wreath.

The speaker of the evening was **ERIKA BARON**, who talked about folklore and tradition of Christmas in Germany. Club members enjoyed refreshments of traditional Christmas pastries, including Stollen and Pfeffernusse, and ended the evening with the singing of traditional Christmas carols. Chairman of the event was **TED BECK** of Agawam.

SEE FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS - Page 13...

HOLIDAY SALE

Designer Clothing From The Finest Fashion Houses In The World.

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New Sweaters 10% OFF

Holiday Glitter Wherever You Go.

New Years And Party Fashions Arriving Daily.

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Santa Lucia Fest Celebrated At Turnverein



THE LOCAL BRAGE-IDUNA LODGE, Vasa Order of America, celebrated the Feast Of Santa Lucia at the Springfield Turnverein, Saturday, December 13th. The legend of St. Lucia begins in the fourth century. Lucia was a native of Sicily who was executed for her Christian belief. Her legend was brought to the lands of the Vikings by Christian missionaries. December 13th in Sweden, the day when Swedes honor this martyr. The candles on the head of the young woman (top photo) represent the good light at a very dark time of year. IN PHOTO BELOW, children dance around the Christmas tree. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



We have a completely renovated two family in Westfield. Tenants pay utilities. Living room, dining room and bedrooms w/w on first floor, new wiring, Andersons, much insulation. Newly shingled roof. A steal for the right buyer!

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LONG-TIME PEN PALS KAREN CORBETT and Jacob Varakalayil finally meet recently after writing to each other for 23 years. Jacob is from India. Advertiser News photo by

Jack Devine.

FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS - From Page 12...

The family and friends of TERRY & SANDY CRIPPS would like to wish them a very happy Silver Wedding Anniversary. Their anniversary was December 9th. They live at 60 Silver Lake Drive, Agawam.

After twenty years of corresponding with her PEN PAL, she finally gets to meet him!!

It all started back when KAREN DIDONATO CORBETT and her cousin, MARLENE DIDONATO LYNDS, started writing to their "Pen Pals." Actually, it was Marlene who was writing to a fellow in India by the name of LAWRENCE, and Karen started to write to JACOB (means Jim) VARAKALAYIL of South Kerala (which means "the land of the coconuts), India.

Both Karen and Jacob are married and have families. Karen was married in 1974 to JAMES CORBETT, and they have an 11 year-old daughter, TIFFANY. They reside on Sunrise Terrace, Agawam.

Jacob & MOLLY were married in India in 1971 and have a 10 year-old daughter, VEENA. (Karen said she is so beautiful that she could be a model.)

Jim and his family have lived in Chicago since 1971, where he was an industrial engineer, and Molly was a respiratory therapist. They are leaving the United States in December to go back to India where Jacob (being the oldest in his family) will take over his ailing parents' farm.

The farm consists of about 60 acres of land and produces cashew nuts, rice, coconuts, coffee, and rubber trees.

Tiffany & Veena got along great, and Karen is pleased.

ed that these girls are also becoming "Pen Pals." They did several things together in the short time they were here. Molly taught Karen how to make a delicious chicken curry.

Karen said she was 16 years-old and Jacob was 19 years-old when they first started writing. The two never dreamed they would still be writing 20 years later. Karen would also encourage anyone, if they have a chance to correspond as a "Pen Pal" to "go for it."

It has been a very rewarding experience, she said. Karen and her family are planning (sometime in the future) a trip to India.

Jacob will be receiving a citation welcoming him to the State of Massachusetts.

Our best wishes to Karen and Jacob for becoming fast friends over the years.

On November 30th, MISS ASHLEY MARIE BOYLE, was crowned "Miss Hemisphere" in the Baby division, at a local regional pageant.

Proud parents of the 19-month old little girl are LORI (ANDRUSS) & CURT BOYLE, 29 Line Street, Feeding Hills.

Ashley will now move on to the State Finals, held in Boston, March 1st, to compete against other regional finalists.

Congratulations, and good luck to "Little Miss Hemisphere," from grandparents BOB & MARIE ANDRUSS.

ANGELA BACHELDER, of 23 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, welcomes her fourth great-grandchild, ANDREA JANE FRANGK, born October 8th, to STANLEY & DEBRA (MADENSKI) FRANGK of Hyde Park, New

York.

She weighed in at a healthy 9 pounds, 5 ounces.

Also joining in the welcome are her sister, DENISE, and cousins, DYLAN and HALLIE MADENSKI of Neskowin, Oregon.

THE CORBETT FAMILY of Agawam and the KALAYIL FAMILY of India. From left - Jim, Karen, and Tiffany Corbett; and Jacob, Molly, and Veena Varakalayil. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

MR. & MRS. JOHN SAVIOLI are proud to announce that their daughter, Lisa, placed fourth runner-up in the La Femina "Model of the Year" Pageant held November 23rd at the Parwick, Chicopee.

Lisa is now eligible to enter the Annual Massachusetts La Femina "Model of the Year" Pageant, which is to be held January 18th at the Sheraton Mansfield Inn, Mansfield.

Lisa will be sponsored by Lewis and Arnold Realtors, located at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, and the Beary Best Children's Clothing Boutique, 203 Barry Street, Feeding Hills.

Welcome Home ALEX! LARRY & KATHY WHITE of Liswell Drive, Feeding Hills, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, ALEXANDER EDWARD.

Alex was born Sunday, November 9th, weighing 5 pounds, 11 ounces.

His joyful grandparents are ART & P.J. OWEN of West Springfield; LAUREL WARD of East Sandwich; and LARRY WHITE SR. of Chicopee.

SEE FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS - Page 16.....

Christmas Your Home!

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LISA SAVIOLI, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Savioli of Feeding Hills, recently placed fourth in a regional "Model of the Year" contest. (SEE PAGE 13, "Friends & Neighbors").



RIDE 'EM COWBOY: This is one ride young Christopher Dore of Feeding Hills won't soon forget. (SEE BELOW).

FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS - From Page 13...

CHRISTOPHER JOHN DORE, JR., recently went to Florida with his Grandma, LINDA WOJCIK of Feeding Hills, and had the honor of sitting on "Shamu" at Sea World. His parents are CHRISTOPHER DORE, SR. & DEBRA (WOJCIK) DORE of Feeding Hills.

Shamu, of course, is the world-famous killer whale who lives at Sea World.

Friends & Neighbors would like to say "MERRY CHRISTMAS" and "A HAPPY NEW YEAR" to all our readers. We wish you good health and happiness in 1987.

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service At 1st Church

The lights and decorations in downtown Springfield, especially around the Court Square area, make First Church a beautiful setting for special activities in this season, and the church wishes to invite the residents and visitors of the Pioneer Valley to share with them in their Christmas events.

On Wednesday evening, December 24th, there will be a service following in the tradition of the English Cathedrals. Laity and clergy will read nine selections of scripture, and each will be followed with a musical selection that is appropriate to the "word."

A candlelight procession by the choir, leading the congregation in singing many carols, begins this service. Following the readings, the entire congregation, in the darkened and beautiful historic Meeting House, shares in a candlelight ceremony and this service concludes at midnight with everyone singing "Joy to the World..." by candlelight.

Everyone is invited to attend this service. It is a very special way to begin your celebration of the birth of Christ.

Lt. Craig P. Fowler In Turkey Exercise

First Lieutenant Craig P. Fowler, son of Claire K. Fowler of 102 Ridgecrest Road, Wallingford, Connecticut, and Earle C. Fowler, Jr., of 420 Main Street, Agawam, has participated in "Coronet Shasta," a short-term deployment exercise held in Turkey.

The purpose of the exercise was to familiarize aircrews and support personnel with overseas operating base, areas, and procedures.

Fowler is a pilot with the 23rd Tactical Fighter Wing at England Air Force Base, Louisiana.



DIANE P. LEARY and CHARLES F. WITHEE

Diane P. Leary Engaged To Mr. Withee of Agawam

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Leary, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Diane P. Leary, to Charles F. Withee of Agawam.

Miss Leary, a 1985 graduate of Bentley College, Waltham, is currently employed as an accountant with Ernst and Whinney, Manchester, New Hampshire.

Mr. Withee, son of Mr. Stewart A. Withee, Sr. of Chicopee, and Ms. Anne H. Withee of Agawam, is a 1985 graduate of the University of Lowell, Lowell.

He is currently employed as a field examiner for the Secured Lending Department of Indian Head National Bank, Nashua, New Hampshire.

The wedding will take place August 29th, 1987, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

PLEASE REMEMBER: Our deadline for our Annual Christmas Edition is Saturday morning, December 20th, at 11:00 a.m. Please be prompt so we may better serve your needs for this special issue published BEFORE Xmas.



Anthony, Sylvia, Frank & Peter Forastiere

Happy Holidays

from the

*Forastiere
Family*

Colonial Funeral Home



Christmas Schedule

Agawam's Places Of Worship

St. John The Evangelist Church

Sunday, December 21, 5:15 P.M.

Celebrate the Final Sunday of Advent with the beautiful Evening Prayer of the Church — Sung Vespers by candlelight.

Monday, December 22

9:00 A.M. Morning Mass.

7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Christmas Confessions

Tuesday, December 23

9:00 A.M. Morning Mass

9:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. Christmas Confessions

4:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M. Christmas Confessions

Wednesday, December 24

9:00 A.M. Morning Mass

4:00 P.M. Mass Anticipating Christ's Birth

6:30 P.M. Christmas Mass For Children Of All Ages

11:00 P.M. Solemn First Mass Of Christmas — This Solemn Mass With Candles And Carols Begins The Church's Festive Celebration Of Christ's Birth.

Thursday, December 25

8:00 A.M. Christmas Mass Of The Shepards At Dawn

9:15 A.M. Christmas Day Mass

10:30 A.M. Christmas Day Mass

11:45 A.M. Christmas Day Mass

Friday, December 26

9:00 A.M. Morning Mass - Feast of St. Stephen

Sacred Heart

December 24

4:00 P.M. Mass - Living Creche By Pre-Schoolers

6:00 P.M. Mass

12:00 A.M. Midnight Mass - Full Senior Choir Will Be Singing And Also The Dedication Of The New Creche In The Chapel Of The Blessed Mother

December 25

7:30 A.M. Mass

9:00 A.M. Mass

11:00 A.M. Mass

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.



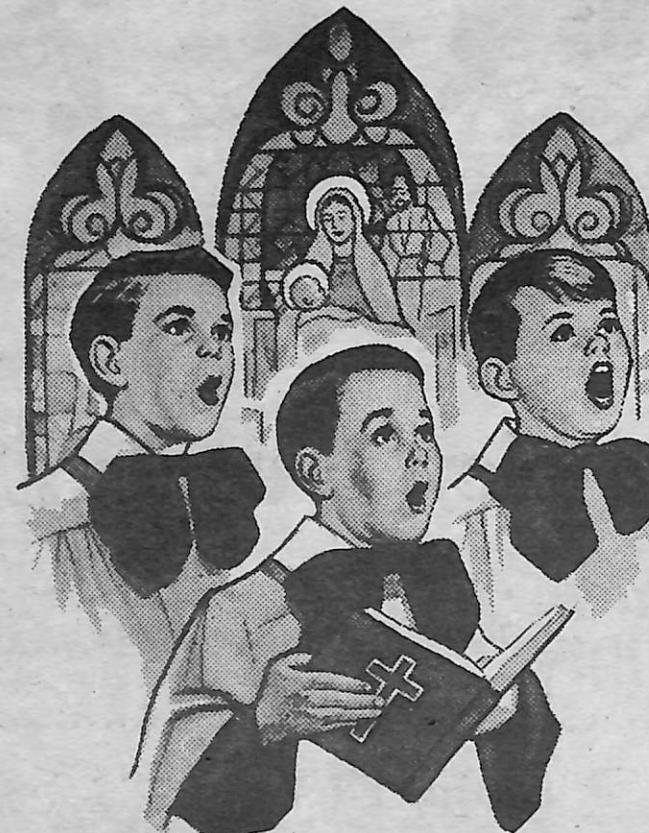
Valley Community Church

Sunday, December 21

10:00 A.M. Service - Family Celebration Of Christmas For All Ages Followed At 11:00, In Dunn Hall By A Church Christmas Party, Especially For Children, And A Visit From Mr. & Mrs. Claus From The North Pole

December 24

11:30 P.M. Service Of Carols And Candlelighting



Agawam Baptist Church

Sunday, December 21

9:30 A.M. Morning Worship - Christmas Anthems By The Choir With Darcy Davis Trumpeter And Over Sixty Club Bell Ringers. The Pastor's Message - Is Christmas For Real?

December 24

7:30 P.M. Candlelight Service - Tableaux Featuring Church School Children Narrated By Jeanne Webster And Donald Morris Concluding With Individual Candlelighting.

St. Anthony's Church

December 24

4:00 P.M. Mass - Carols

December 25

8:30 Mass - Children's Christmas Presentation

10:45 Mass

Bethany Assembly Of God

December 17

7:00 P.M. Children's Christmas Program "A Star Is Born"

December 21

7:00 P.M. Youth Choir Cantata "Everlasting Lord"

December 24

7:00 P.M. Candlelight Communion Service

December 31

10:30 P.M. Watch Night Service

St. Therese's Church

December 24

4:30 P.M. Mass - Children Participating
12:00 A.M. Midnight Mass - Traditional Caroling Before Solemn Mass With Senior Choir, Jacqueline Johnson, Organist

December 25

9:00 A.M. Mass
11:00 A.M. Mass - With Christmas Carols

Feeding Hills Congregational Church

December 24

5:30 P.M. Christmas Festival Worship - Lessons, Carols, And The Sacrament Of The Lord's Supper

11:30 P.M. Readings, Meditations, And The Sacrament Of The Lord's Supper To Usher In Christmas Day

Agawam Congregational Church

Sunday, December 21

10:30 A.M. Golden Bell Choir Will Perform The Meditation Music, Altar Decorated With Many Poinsettias Which Will Be Given To Member Shut-Ins

December 24

6:30 P.M. Family Candlelight Service Geared For Families With Young Children

11:00 P.M. Traditional Candlelight Service And Carols

Agawam Methodist Church

December 24

7:00 P.M. Family Service With Lessons, Carols And Candles

11:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M. Service With Candles And Communion



St. David's Church

December 24

5:00 P.M. Special Children's Service

10:40 P.M. Carols

11:00 P.M. Choral Service With Festival Eucharist Following

December 25

10:00 A.M. Eucharist

MONEY SENSE

by Charles Alvanos
IDS-American Exp. —
Financial Planner



All About The IRA

One of your favorite tax deductions, the IRA, might be eliminated under the tax reform act of 1986.

Anyone who stops contributing to an IRA may be passing up a good opportunity for retirement savings. While many taxpayers will no longer be able to claim this deduction on future tax returns, an IRA serves as a high-yield, tax-deferred savings account—one of the best ways to invest long term.

If you haven't already made an IRA contribution for 1986, you have until April 15th, 1987, to do so. Plan to make the largest contribution you can—\$2,000 for working individuals and up to \$2,250 for married couples with a non-working spouse—since it will be fully tax-deductible this year.

You should also consider continuing your contributions in the future.

Who is still eligible for an IRA deduction under the new tax law? Married couples whose adjusted gross income is \$40,000 or less, and single individuals whose adjusted gross income is \$25,000 or less, may still contribute the maximum amount allowed and claim a full deduction on their tax return.

Taxpayers whose adjusted gross income exceeds these limits, and who are also eligible to participate in an employer pension plan, or whose spouse is eligible, may have restricted deductions.

Married couples who make more than \$40,000 annually, but less than \$50,000, may have reduced IRA deductions. The same holds true for single individuals. Those who make more than \$25,000 annually, but less than \$35,000, will also have reduced deductions.

Taxpayers whose annual income exceeds the maximum annual salary under the phase-out, and who are eligible to participate in an employer-sponsored pension plan, will not be able to deduct any IRA contributions.

Is a pension plan enough savings for retirement?

Depending on your dreams for your retirement years, most people find they need more than the proceeds from an employee pension plan and their Social Security to live on once they are retired.

And now, even 401(k) employee-sponsored pension plans have been drastically limited. Currently, employees may contribute as much as \$30,000 annually to a 401(k) plan.

Included in the plan is a provision that allows employers to contribute a portion of that total. Under the tax reform bill, the maximum contribution has been

The Agawam Advertiser News

reduced to \$7,000 annually, including employer participation.

If you move from one job to another, especially before completing a certain minimum period of service, you may lose the money that your employer has set aside for you. Although you are contributing to this plan, your employer has a controlling interest in your account until a certain period of time has elapsed, usually seven years.

Now, under the tax reform bill, you can be "vested" (have indisputable to 401 (K) pension money) within five years of joining the plan.

However, most companies require that you work for them at least a year or two before you can participate in a retirement plan.

What are the alternatives? While IRAs and 401(k)s continue to be a good source of income for a retirement plan, they lose some of their attraction for many people who contribute because of the changes in the tax laws.

There are other plans available. Annuities offer many of the same attractions as an IRA and they will retain their tax-deferred status under the tax reform

act. They offer the same tax deferral and profit potential of an IRA, but there is no limit for yearly contributions.

Be aware that there are also IRS penalties for early withdrawals of the annuity, as well as surrender charges frequently imposed by the issuing insurance companies.

Municipal bonds are also a good way to save for your retirement as long as you select a "muni" with a strong credit rating. With most "munis," you will never have to pay federal taxes on earned interest. The bond, however, could fluctuate depending on future interest rate movements. For those planning to retire within the next year, a good bond to consider is a "zero coupon" municipal bond with no call provisions.

Should you still contribute to an IRA? Even if you are not eligible to deduct your IRA contributions, these plans enable you to place money in a high-yield, long term savings account, deferring taxes on the interest until you begin withdrawing the money when you retire. The interest earned is re-invested without being diminished by income taxes.

For all the local news, townsfolk turn to us!



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Heritage Hall's Activities & Events

ENTERTAINMENT

Christmas Feelings Mingle!

On Monday afternoon, Brownie Troop 543, accompanied by troop leader Sue Meunier, arrived at Heritage Hall bringing an abundance of Christmas Spirit with them. The troop entertained residents with all-time favorite Christmas carols. They distributed handmade cards and decorations to the residents. After the entertainment, the group visited the residents in their rooms.

The group refreshed themselves on an assortment of cookies, soda, and milk. Residents would like to express a special thank-you to Brownie Troop 543 and their leader, Sue Meunier, for sharing their feeling of Christmas with them.

Bells Are Ringing!

On Monday, December 8th, the Golden Bell Choir from the Agawam Congregational Church, under the direction of Alice Moore, visited the residents of Heritage Hall. The group entertained residents by ringing out melodious tones on the bells to a variety of Christmas music. They ended the program with their version of Silent Night, as the residents eagerly participated in a sing-a-long. Alice also treated residents to a brief history of the Bell Choir music. The bells used by the group are originally from Holland.

Everyone who participated enjoyed themselves tremendously. Heritage Hall would like to extend a special thank you to the Agawam Bell Choir and Director Alice Moore for a superb evening.

HELPING HANDS

Special People!

Heritage Hall would like to extend a special thank you to Bill Koob. Every Friday morning, Bill leads the rosary and prayer services for the residents. He also visits the rooms of the residents who are unable to attend and distributes communion to them. Bill is a Eucharistic minister at St. John's Church, Agawam.

Mrs. Koob, Stella Gorczycka, and Kay Johnson are also volunteers from St. John's. These dedicated volunteers make it possible for the residents to continue to participate in their religious beliefs. Heritage Hall appreciates the time these volunteers are giving to the residents.

Gift Wrapping!

On Saturday morning, students from the C.C.D. class, and teacher Pamela Anzalotti, from Our Lady of the Lake Church, Southwick, arrived at Heritage Hall prepared to work.

The task of the day consisted of wrapping Christmas gifts that are given to the residents from the facility. The class did a terrific job on the gifts.

They diligently applied their efforts and artistic

talents to make the packages a delight to look at. Heritage Hall would like to extend a thank-you to the class and Pamela for donating their time to us.

COMMUNITY

Mimes Speak!

Heritage Hall residents were visited by a talented and extraordinary group this week. Activity Directors Fran O'Connell and Kay Babcock recently hosted a group of mimes from the Christian Day School of Springfield.

They are a group of talented, innovative, youngsters that act out Christian education and Biblical passages in mime. It was a different type of program and was greatly enjoyed by the residents. They were particularly interested in hearing the director explain the origin and success of Christian Day Schools all over the country.

It was certainly a fitting program for the holiday season. Heritage Hall would like to extend a thank-you to the group for sharing a new dimension and way of learning with our residents.

Calendar Of Events

Golden Age Club

January 2nd: Chapter 1—Board of Directors meeting at 1:00 p.m.

January 7th: Chapter 2—Regular meeting with Chef J. Tomasetti, courtesy of Agawam Food Mart.

January 14th: Chapter 1—Regular meeting with Musical Entertainer John Saboy.

January 21st: Chapter 2—Regular meeting with gift bingo.

January 23rd: Chapter 2—Board of Directors meeting at 1:00 p.m.

January 28th: Chapter 1—Regular meeting with gift bingo.

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| Imported Ham..... | \$2.99 | Lb. |
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| Copaco Slab Bacon (Sliced To Order) | \$1.99 | Lb. |

Christmas Orders - Being Accepted

Boneless Rib Roast

Spoon Roast

Sirloin Roast

Crown Roast Of Pork

Tenderloin Roast

Swordfish

Shrimp

Alaskan King Crab Legs

Party Trays

Salads



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New Year's Eve

Gala In THE REGENCY ROOM At DaVinci's

SOUP: New England Clam Chowder**APPETIZER:** Choice Of: Chilled Heart Of Plum
With Garlic Dressing Or Stuffed Mushrooms
Florentine**ENTREES:**

Choice Of:

DUCK MELBA - Crispy Roast Boneless Duck Served
With Raspberry Sauce**BROILED SEAFOOD MEDITERRIAN** — Mussels,
Crabmeat, Shrimp, Scrod & Scallops Topped With
Vegetables & Broiled In Butter, Lemon And Garlic**RACK OF LAMB DIJONNAISE** — Two Double
Lamb Chops Brushed With Dijon Mustard, Served
Roasted To Perfection.**TOURNEDOS OF BEEF BERNAISE** — Noisettes
Of Beef Tenderloin Sauteed In Butter Served With
Bernaise Sauce.*Above Served With Bread & Butter, Salad,
Baked Potato Or Rice And Coffee*One Glass Of Complimentary Champagne
At MidnightDancing To W B Bop
From 9 To ??????REGENCY ROOM GALA BY
RESERVATIONS ONLY

\$25⁰⁰
Per Person



Dinners Will Also Be Served In DaVinci's Restaurant On New Year's Eve. The Full Dinner Menu Will Be Offered.



ENJOYING THE CHRISTMAS PARTY of L'Association Canada Americaine, at Mansion Woods Condominiums, are, from left - Jane Angers, Therese Duval, Denise Laudato, Amy Surrette, and Gilberte Gaudreault. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Local French Organization Holds Annual Xmas Party

L'Association Canada Americaine, members of the Cour Laurier 27 of Springfield, had their Christmas Social, December 5th at Mansion Woods Condominium Club of Agawam.

Guests from Connecticut of the Cour Ste Anne were present.

Agawam's Vera Conway provided entertainment.

Christmas Carols were played and sung by all present. Champagne punch and eggnog were served. The social committee prepared a beautiful table laden with hors d'oeuvres and an array of sweets. Everyone enjoyed this social evening.

Sons Of Norway Plan Yuletre Fest Dec. 28th

Sons of Norway, Neptune Lodge 552 will hold its Yuletre Fest, Sunday, December 28th, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 1552 Westfield Street, West Springfield.

We ask for a donation of a tray of sandwiches or cookies from each family attending. There will be surprises for the children. All Scandinavians or persons interested in Norwegian culture are welcome.

For further information, please call Jean Cook, cultural director, 562-1338.



MARIALYSE RIVERS and **CLAIRE BARRY** are pictured in front of the dessert and appetizer table at the Annual Christmas Party of L'Association Canada Americaine. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Airman James Giles, Jr. Graduates Missile Course

Airman James Giles, Jr., son of Annie L. Giles of 58 Paul Revere Drive, Feeding Hills, has graduated from the U.S. Air Force missile facilities course at Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois.

During the course, students were taught fundamentals of electricity and refrigeration for maintenance of missile facilities systems.

They also earned credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Attend Sunday Services December 21

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God." Ephesians 2:8

9:45 A.M. Christian Education Classes

10:45 A.M. Worship Service

7:00 P.M. Revival Rally

Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.
Family Night



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Pastor: Rev. E.B. Berkey

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FOR YOUR HEALTH.....

YOUR BACK & YOUR HEALTH

by Dr. Joseph & Dr. Katherine Schlaffer - Chiropractors



Snow Shoveling Can Hurt Your Back...

Shoveling snow this winter? Be careful. The glorious winter season is here again. There's nothing prettier than a new fallen snow — nothing more dangerous either!

Each year, we hear about the number of heart attacks and strokes that occur as the result of overexertion. The tragedy of the fatal or near-fatal result of an apparently healthy person from snow shoveling is rather common. Other hazards involved are even more common.

The same snow which causes heart stress, also causes dangerous stress to the discs in the spine of the shoveler. When you consider that a shovel of snow weighs from five to seven pounds, you realize the tremendous accumulative weight one has to lift to clear an area. The average driveway or walk will hold

hundreds of pounds of snow.

Snow seems to present a challenge to most people. The cold air invigorates them to action, and the same cold air numbs their sense of pain and fatigue, thereby masking the severity of strain and sprain. The result: too much exertion, and too much work without rest breaks.

Doctors of chiropractic, who are specialists in helping patients with spine related problems, recommend the following rules to guard against the snow-shoveler syndrome:

1. **Dress warmly**, but don't bundle up so as to make it difficult and awkward for you to move naturally.
2. **Use a lightweight pusher-type shovel**. Spray it with Teflon so snow will not cling to it.
3. **Try not to lift** the snow if possible. Push it into a pile thereby relieving spinal compression.
4. **Avoid sudden twists** of the torso. Move the entire body.
5. **Keep your back straight** when you lift. Use your legs rather than your back.
6. **Work slowly**.
7. **If you feel tired or short of breath**, stop and take a rest. Stand-up straight and breathe deeply.
8. **If you feel a twinge of back pain**, stop completely and go inside the house; sit down and rest. If pain persists, see a doctor of chiropractic immediately. With snow, it's wiser to use the head, instead of the back.

Fitness First Offers Variety Of Aerobic Classes

FLEXIBILITY CLASS: Tuesdays, Thursdays-10:15 a.m.; 6:15 p.m. Saturdays-11:15 a.m.-15 minutes. This class provides 15 minutes of static stretching, which will help reduce muscle tension, make your body feel more relaxed, increase your range of motion, develop body awareness, reduce the risk of injury and promote circulation. This class is ideal for everyone, no matter what your present level of conditioning.

LOW IMPACT AEROBICS: Tuesdays, Thursdays-9:30 a.m.; 5:30 p.m. Saturdays-10:30 a.m.-45 minutes. Designed as an introduction to aerobic conditioning or as an alternative to high impact aerobics, this class provides 15 minutes of cardiovascular exercise as well as 15 minutes of floor work which concentrates on abdominals, hips and buttocks and legs.

We strongly suggest participants in this class also take part in the flexibility class which follows im-

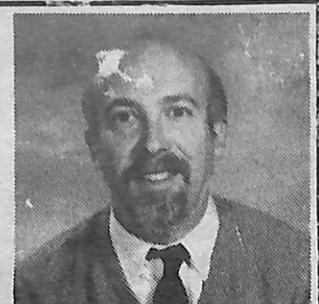
mediately after this program. This program is recommended for persons just beginning an exercise program or for anyone who cannot jump or jog in place due to physical limitations.

BEGINNER AEROBICS: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays-10:30 a.m.; 5:30 p.m. Saturdays-9:15 a.m.-50 minutes. Designed as a moderate level workout, this class works in all three areas of fitness— aerobic conditioning, muscle strength and definition, and flexibility. This would be the next step up from the low impact aerobic program.

INTERMEDIATE AEROBICS: Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays-classes at 9:15 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Saturdays-9:15 a.m.-60 minutes. This class also works in all three areas of fitness, but for a longer period of time. The 20 minutes of cardiovascular exercise will help condition your heart, lungs and blood vessels, as well as burn calories and increase your body's metabolism. SEE AEROBICS - Page 26...

MANAGING YOUR STRESS

by Stephen Sobel
M.S., S.M.C.



Sense Of Humor In Workplace...

Dear Steve: A good friend of mine recently attended a workshop of yours that his company sponsored. I only spoke to him briefly, but he said it was great because it emphasized how a sense of humor can actually increase productivity, produce better work relationships, and improve health.

He is a bank manager and I believe he said quite a few people attended. I'd like to learn more about this, and if more will be done in the Springfield area. I think my company would be interested. Thanks for replying.

T.P., Agawam

Answer: I strongly feel that laughter, a good sense of humor, and having the ability to change your perception about a situation (the way you "see" an event or problem) can not only add to the success of a company, but can really help add good health to individuals and reduce stress.

Many companies are now realizing that in order to produce profits year after year, they have to invest in the health and morale of their employees at all levels. This includes both blue collar and white collar workers.

I've spoken to many groups on the benefits of laughter - both physiologically and psychologically. I even have found it quite interesting that many people have asked me if they can be "taught" to have a sense of humor to help reduce stress in their personal/professional lives.

I've taken on several individual clients lately and worked with them on humor/perspective training. Although my program is new and innovative, people have responded extremely well and are pleased with the results.

Also remember some of the "side benefits" of laughter—it's salt free, has no caffeine, has no preservatives, is low in calories, one size fits all, and is free!

SEE SENSE OF HUMOR - Page 26...

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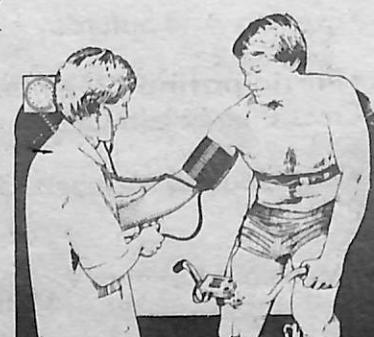
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Sun. Noon - 6 P.M.



FOR YOUR HEALTH - Continued....

How's The Family?????

**Dr. Warren F. Schumacher, Assoc. Professor
Cooperative Extension Specialist,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst**

The Family Has Become A Real Political Football

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: As a public service, the AAN will begin this week, as part of its regular "For Your Health" Section, present this very informative and provocative column by Dr. Warren F. Shumacher, associate professor at UMass., called "How's The Family?????"

A monster has been born that is eating away the common bond that we all share. A competitive spirit has developed between those who have assumed the "pro-family" label and those who do not adhere to a conservative political philosophy.

Antagonism grows as the debate continues between the so-called "right wing" and the so-called "liberal." And add to this the debate over new economic programs and the President's "New Federalism"; mix-in the rhetoric concerning the role of the federal government on the one hand, and that of the local government and private sector on the other, and those of us who are truly concerned about our families begin to wonder which way is up.

A war is being waged over services and supports for families—what services should be delivered, to whom, by whom, at what cost to the taxpayers? Battles are being fought on religious and legal grounds, and, unfortunately, each contestant thinks that he/she is wearing the white hat and the opponents have the black hats.

The heat of battle blinds us to the common cause that we all share—the family is the basic building block of society. Only if we remove the family from the contemporary political and economic chess board can we see that this game, this war, this controversial

monster, can only harm the common concern that all of us have for our families.

We must stop treating the family in theoretical terms. It is not an abstract entity. It is the primary provider of our support and the ultimate receiver of all services. It is our heart and sole. Don't allow anyone to place some label on you that makes it look like you fail to support families. Don't allow our political representatives to get caught-up in a swirling debate that ultimately will "divide and conquer" the masses, each of whom has a deeply personal interest in the welfare of our families, all of the families of the nation.

During the next week, watch-out for any political announcement that claims an exclusive concern for some family issue. Be sensitive to any type of advertising claiming a monopoly on caring for life or children, family stability, or economic well-being. Catch yourself when you make some absolute statement about some point of view, some value, some policy that has an effect on family life.

Perhaps, it is time to search for a new middle ground as we look for supports to strengthen families. From a political as well as religious point of view, what is it that we hold in common about people living in families that needs preservation? From an economic point of view, what must be preserved as an ultimate "safety net" of services to aid families, and what could be provided by the "natural helping network" in the community that does not require the expense of professional services?

If only we would spend less energy and time on the games of controversy and the wars of words, perhaps we could invest some of our creative energy to find

ways to support the families of our own neighborhoods?

Did you ever think of starting a local "parental stress hot line" that would make volunteers available to talk to other parents about the daily problems that are driving them crazy? This volunteer service does not give answers, but it does provide a free listening ear who is truly concerned; many times that is all that is needed to defuse the bomb.

Did you ever think of the children on the block as the neighborhood responsibility? With so many mothers of young children now working outside the home, the kids are coming home after school and no adult is there. People in some communities have gotten together; families on each block take turns each week as the responsible adult "on call" between 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., each week-day afternoon.

They put a sign in their window to announce this fact to the children on their block. Did you ever think of trying to get a group of fathers together once a month to talk about the issues men are experiencing in trying to raise a family today? It doesn't have to be a big formal thing. It doesn't have to be some kind of excluding meeting of men with the same political or religious convictions; the common bond is a concern for our families and a desire for more satisfaction in our parental role.

There are so many resources available if only we open our eyes and look for them. There are so many ideas that we could come up with if only we would stop the in-fighting and create them. The future of families is not assured by fighting battles or playing games. Families of the future will be built from the "grass roots" of our mutual care and concern.

AEROBICS - From Page 25...

You should be in good physical condition before starting this class.

FIRM AND TONE: Tuesdays, Thursdays-6:30 p.m.; Saturdays-11:30 a.m.—55 minutes. Unlike the previously described classes, Firm & Tone concentrates on one area of fitness only; muscle strength and definition. This workout is designed to work each and every muscle group to its maximum potential, and has similar results as a weight training program.

Rubber bands and hand/ankle weights are available for maximum results. Good for anyone wanting to firm and tone their body.

EARLY DEADLINE: Please note that the deadline for Our Annual Christmas Edition is Saturday, December 20th, at 11:00 a.m. Please be prompt so we will be able to serve you better!

WINTER
BEGINS
DECEMBER 21ST

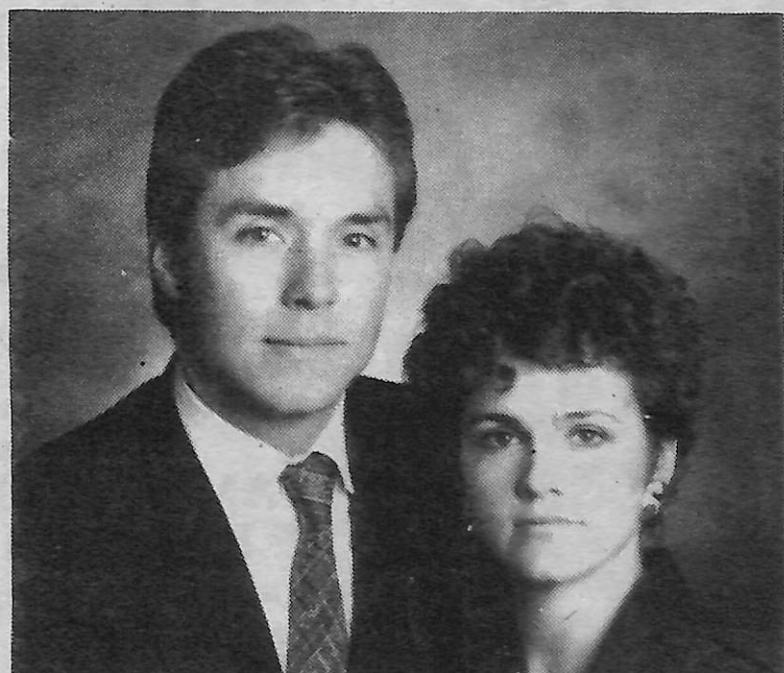
HUMOR IN WORKPLACE - From Page 25..

In many respects, the physiological effects of laughter/humor resemble those of some good exercises! Humor can also be a great "distancing" tool in times of stress/pressure, and I feel a sense of humor can be practiced and developed even if you don't feel you are a "natural."

Many organizations and companies contact me to conduct on-site seminars about humor/laughter/"team building."

Please give me a call or write if you want further information, and remember he/she who laughs does last! The rewards from such a workshop can be substantial. I work at differentiating between laughing at versus laughing with, as well.

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*Santa
Suggests...*

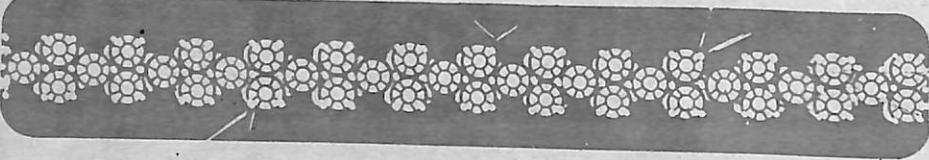
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| Bone In Rib Roast (1st - 4th Rib)..... | \$3.29 | Lb. |
| Bone In Rib Roast (5th - 7th Rib)..... | \$2.99 | Lb. |
| Boneless Rib Roast (With Cap On)..... | \$3.69 | Lb. |
| Boneless Rib Eye Roast..... | \$3.99 | Lb. |
| Jordan Skinless & Shankless Hams (Whole).... | \$1.99 | Lb. |
| Jordan Skinless & Shankless Hams (Halves).... | \$2.19 | Lb. |
| Lean Ground Chuck (5 Lbs. Or More)..... | \$1.59 | Lb. |
| Lean Ground Chuck Patties (3 Lbs. Or More)... | \$1.89 | Lb. |
| Sweet Life Bacon..... | \$1.59 | Lb. |
| Sweet Life Beef Franks..... | \$1.59 | Lb. |

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| Whole Boneless Top Sirloin..... | \$2.19 |
| Whole Bone In Ribs Of Beef | \$2.49 |
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Eve, December 24
At 5:00 P.M.**



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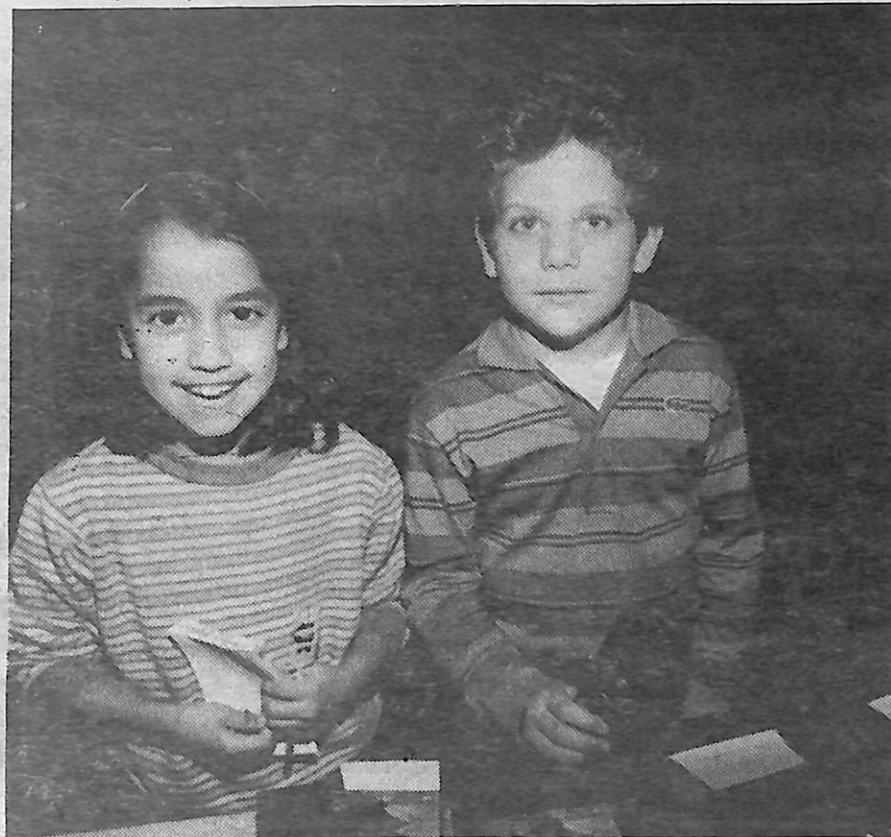
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Schools



OVER AT ROBINSON PARK SCHOOL, first grader Jennifer Gingras receives assistance from PTO member Darlene Sandstrom at that school's Annual "Secret Holiday Gift Shop." Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



PHELPS SCHOOL STUDENTS Emily Gomez and Alfonso Scala are not quite sure to buy, but with the assistance of PTO members, each found the perfect gifts for various family members. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Schools Conduct Annual Holiday Gift Shops

by Alexis Ferioli
School Dept. Editor

Wide smiles were seen on the happy, excited faces of students in each of the town's four elementary schools, as well as at the middle school, during recent visits to their respective "Secret Holiday Gift Shops."

Sponsored by each school's Parent Teacher Organization, the Christmas project provides students with an inexpensive means of purchasing gifts for the special people on their holiday shopping lists.

Staffed by volunteer PTO members, each gift store featured handmade items, as well as a wide variety of merchandise that ranged in price from 10 cents to \$5.

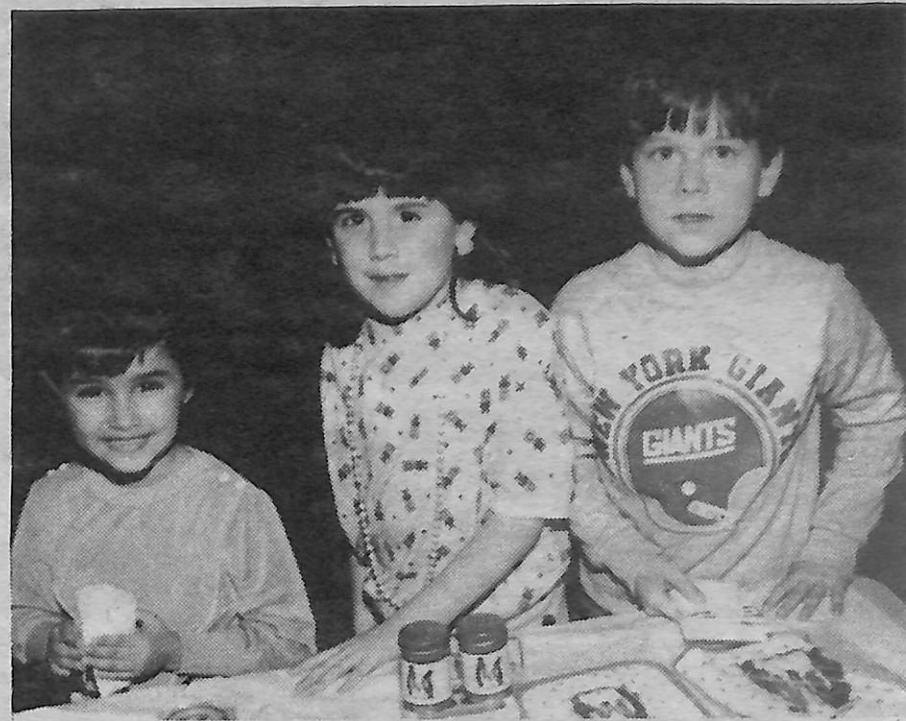
Among the items shoppers were able to purchase were key rings, small tools, note pads, jewelry, pot holders, knick-knacks, mugs, school supplies, and posters.

At the elementary level, student shoppers not only received help selecting their gifts, but also had their purchases gift wrapped and labeled.

Each of the five school principals readily agree that the annual yuletide project boosts students' Christmas spirits.

Moreover, they believe the project helps to develop positive interaction among students, parents, and staff members.

NO ONE covers the news in the Agawam Schools like our **ALEXIS FERIOLI!**



ALSO AT ROBINSON PARK, students Angela Beharry, Martha Manning, and Eric Ciborowski try to select a holiday gift for a family member. All three students have their trusty shopping lists, in-hand. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AT PHELPS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Christmas Store co-chairwomen Jane Knodler and Linda Halbach assist Derek Thurman and Justin Trench with their Christmas shopping, Wednesday, December 11th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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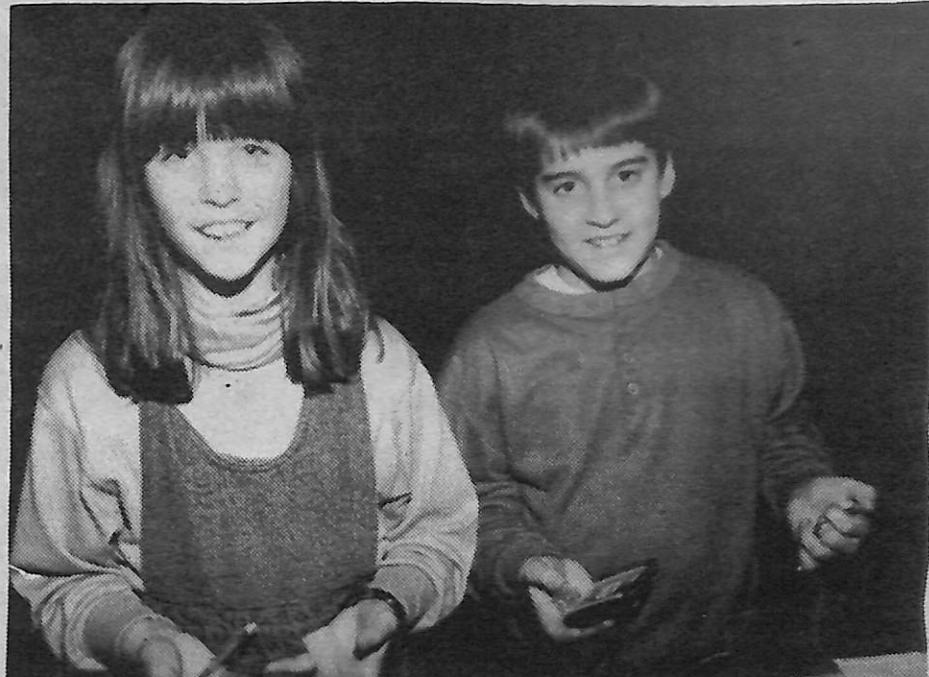
AT CLARK SCHOOL, ELF DONNA HARVEY hands this little gift, made right in the North Pole, to happy student-buyer Stephen Sherman. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO MEMBER Pam Pudlo lends her expertise on holiday gifts to students Dan Davenport and Scott Battles. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



HOLDING STUFFED ANIMALS purchased at the middle school's holiday workshop are students Colleen Meagher and Theresa Ogorzalek. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ROBINSON PARK STUDENTS Heather Chickakly and John Higgins are all smiles after they each found several gifts for family members at the school's Annual Holiday Workshop. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE PTO AND STUDENTS of Clark School were busy as Santa's elves buying and selling Christmas gifts at the Annual Holiday Workshop. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Still Taking Christmas Party Reservations



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Watering Hole

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ROBINSON PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, from left - Stephanie Karam, Andre Girard, and Bethany Caplan hold non-perishable canned-goods to be donated to the Open Pantry in Springfield, just in time for the holiday season. The student body at the school participated in the project to help the needy in this area enjoy a better holiday dinner. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Mr. & Mrs. Klaus At Clark...

AT CLARK SCHOOL, Jill Lungarini sits on Santa's lap while Mrs. Klaus takes careful notes of all the presents Jill has asked Santa to deliver to her house on Christmas Eve. Santa and Mrs. Klaus arrived at Clark School as part of the school's Annual "Secret Holiday Gift Shop." Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT ANDY FELIX was the winner of the Agawam VFW's Essay Contest on "What The Statue Of Liberty Means To Me." Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Jr. High Student Wins VFW Essay Contest

by Andy Felix
Junior High Student

What the Statue of Liberty means to me is the freedom we have and always hope to have. And here is how I feel.

S is for the stately way she stands in the harbor. **T** is for the thousands who passed her by. **A** is for the anticipation in the hearts of first time visitors.

T is for the torch which she holds bright in her hand. **U** is for the unique way she was built. **E** is for her ears which listen to America.

O is the way she overlooks the seas. **F** is for her figure. **L** is for the length of time she's been standing. **I** is for the immigrants who have come under her arms. **B** is for the brilliant way she was built. **E** is for her eyes which look-out for the people of America.

R is for the way she represents freedom in the world. **T** is for the way she touches everybody's hearts. **Y** is for the years of memories she brings back.

All this spells out a special lady to me.

The Agawam High School Music Department Presents

"A Winter Concert"

Monday, December 22nd
7:30 P.M.

Agawam High School Auditorium

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

TWO AHS Gals Win VFW Oratorical Contest

by Alexis Ferioli
School Dept. Editor

Two Agawam High School students, Terri Cimaroli and Michelle Blanchard, recently competed in the Annual "Voice of Democracy" oratorical contest sponsored by the local Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.

Open to students in grades 10, 11, and 12, the contest's aim is to promote student knowledge of the American democratic system.

Contestants, who compete for scholarship prize money totaling \$14,000 on the national level, were required to prepare a three-to-five-minute cassette tape recording to expound on this year's topic, "Challenge of American Citizenship."

AHS English teacher Lawrence O'Brien says entrants were judged in the areas of delivery, originality, and content by a panel of six teachers.

A \$70 first prize was awarded to Terri, while runner-up Michelle received \$45. Both students also received framed certificates, he adds.

O'Brien expects that as the winner of the local competition, Terri's speech will next be entered in district competition. If a finalist, it will advance to state level competition, and, hopefully, the national finals, which will take place in Washington, D.C., February 27th to March 4th.

Terri, a 15 year-old sophomore, relates that she learned of the contest from O'Brien, her high-ability class English teacher.

"Prior to Veteran's Day, Mr. O'Brien discussed the importance of democracy and the VFW contest. Since I enjoy writing, I thought that I'd enter the contest which

seemed interesting," she remarks.

Having never entered a contest before, Terri was surprised by her first-place victory.

"Besides being surprised, I felt really good about winning my first writing contest. Since I'm only a sophomore, I'm eligible to re-enter in both my junior and senior year," she comments.

When not writing, Terri keeps busy as a member of both the AHS Marching Mohawks and Concert Bands. One of her most recent honors was being named to the Western District Concert Band. Terri will soon compete for All-State band honors in January.

An avid field hockey player, she also enjoys writing poetry and hopes to be published in the AHS literary magazine *Unicorn* next spring.

The following are a few excerpts from Terri's award-winning speech:

"In recognition of former President John F. Kennedy, let us remember his statement, 'Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.'

"This quote means, as citizens of the United States, we are expected to repay our country for the rights they have given us. In return for our lives of freedom, it is merely asked that we work together to defend what is ours. One word that holds our country together is the word unity.

"We are one, in unison, with our government. As U.S. citizens, we have what are called civil rights. We welcome people of all races and nationalities. The main idea that we must keep in mind is that the children of today are the leaders of tomorrow. In order to have a democratic republic of the future, our children must live in one."

Phelps PTO Sponsors Santa's Visit & Xmas Store

On December 22nd, Santa & Mrs. Claus will take time off from their busy schedule for their Annual Phelps School Visit.

Each holiday season, Lawrence & Emma Theobald, dressed as the Clauses, visit the youngsters in grades kindergarten to five. The faithful couple, who have visited the school for over 10 years now, will chat with the students, lead them in holiday songs, and distribute gifts and candy canes supplied by the school's PTO.

The PTO Christmas Store, another annual event sponsored by the organization, was a recent success thanks to the many volunteers. Jane Knodler, chairwoman for the event said, "This year, the students had a wide variety of gifts at reasonable prices. Everyone was pleased with Santa's Secret Shop."

At this time, the Phelps PTO would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and thank-you for making 1986 the best year yet!



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AHS MUSIC STUDENTS Michele Czupta and Jennifer Herd share a light moment with Tony Joseph while rehearsing for the upcoming Winter Concert. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

James Maloney Receives Quinnipiac Scholarship

James Maloney, Jr., of 35 Leland Avenue, is among the full-time undergraduate students who have been awarded Quinnipiac scholarships by the college for the 1986-87 year.

Students being considered for these scholarships must be in the top third of their high school class, have attained a Scholastic Aptitude Test score of at least 1,000, as well as meet other academic criteria set by the college. The awards are based totally on academic achievement, without regard to financial need.

The intent of Quinnipiac College in offering these Quinnipiac scholarships is to recognize and reward excellent students, and encourage them to take advantage of the quality academic programs at the college.

Quinnipiac offers more than 45 different academic programs through its Schools of Business, Allied Health and Natural Sciences, and Liberal Arts.



MUSIC STUDENTS AT AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL will be staging the school's Annual Winter Concert, Monday, December 22nd. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Winter Concert-Time At Agawam High

by Alexis Ferioli
School Dept. Editor

It's that time of year again for candy canes, mistletoe, and the Agawam High School Music Department's Annual Winter Concert.

The 60-minute holiday program will take place Monday, December 22nd, at 7:30 p.m., in the senior high auditorium.

Residents are invited to enjoy the merry sounds of Christmas, as performed by the AHS Chorus, Show Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Concert Band, and Jazz Band.

Vocal music director Stephen Files points out that the five groups will alternate performances, providing the audience with a more varied program.

Besides singing a medley of traditional English carols, the 47-member Show Choir will perform a jazz arrangement of "Jingle Bells," as well as a new arrangement of "Kum By Yah."

Moreover, soloist Michelle Czupta will be featured during the group's rendition of "O Holy Night."

Two serious songs, "The Tree of Peace" and "Do You Hear What I Hear," will be performed by the 55-member Chorus, which will join the Show Choir and Vocal Ensemble in singing the holiday classic, "Winter Wonderland."

Vocal Ensemble numbers include "Coventry Carole" and a contemporary version of "The Lord Bless You and Keep You."

Instrumental music director Scott Thomson relates that the Jazz Band will perform two holiday favorites, "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," and "Winter Wonderland," as well as a Buddy Rich arrangement of

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"West Side Story."

Following two seasonal renditions of "Here We Come A'Wassailing" and "Sleigh Ride," the Concert Band will perform "Galloping Major," and John Philip Sousa rousing march, "Jack Tar."

As the finale, all five groups will join the audience members for a sing-a-long session of Christmas carols.

Thomson reports that the concert band, which has been rebuilt from a low of 32 members to its present size of 52, will feature performances by four students who recently were named to the Western District group. These include bassoonist Melissa Martin, and clarinetists Maureen Ciampa, Terri Cimaroli, and Alison Hubbard.

Moreover, six jazz band members were named to their respective Western District group. Besides saxophonists Susan Arnold and Jeff Mackenzie, musicians receiving honors were trombonist Alex Kohli, bassist Chris Hamel, guitarist Mike Smith, and drummer Joe Bourbonnais.

Besides attaining top honors at Virginia Beach last year, both groups eagerly anticipate performing in their respective competitions in Montreal, Canada, next spring.

Both music teachers state that their groups have been preparing for the annual concert since early fall. A \$1 donation, which will aid the Music Department's transportation fund, will be solicited at the door.



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Agawam Schools' Lunch Menu

Monday, December 22nd: Pepperoni pizza, buttered green beans, chilled fruit cup, milk.

Tuesday, December 23rd: Orange juice, steamed frankfort in roll, mustard, relish, catsup, oven baked beans, buttered mixed vegetables, Christmas cake with butter icing, milk.

Wednesday, December 24th: No school, Christmas Vacation.

St. John's Cub Scouts 77 Induct New Bobcat Scouts

The Cub Scouts from Pack 77 of St. John's Parish inducted the following boys as Bobcats, at their October Pack meeting: Jason Degray, Justin Casinghino, Theodore Gontezaruk, Eric Hebert, Nick Della-Giustina, David Martin, James Flood, Brian Swenson, Eric Belisle, Lucas Taylor, Jon Dumas, Scott Guyer, Kerry Reopel, Jeffrey Mutti, Steven Sands, Joseph Kerr, Scott Lanigan, James Antico, Daniel Hess, David Borawiec, Christopher Bitza, Chad Abdow, Darren Bennett, and Michael Raynor.

At its November meeting, the Scouts and their families were entertained by Den 3, which performed a Thanksgiving skit. Immediately following, Father/Son Bake-off entries were judged and auctioned off.

The Scouts and their dads worked hard in the kitchen to create some unusual and delicious looking desserts. First place went to Rich DellaGiustina and his dad for their "Rocket"; second place to Jeremy Gagnon/dad team for a "Sailboat"; and third place to Steven Martin and his dad for a "Christmas Tree." Congratulations for a great job done!

The Scouts brought a bit of holiday spirit to Heritage Hall in Agawam this month. A basket of fruit and cookies was presented to the residents while the Scouts sang Christmas carols. The children of the Shriner's Hospital will be receiving a basket of treats and Christmas cards prepared by the Scouts to help bring them a little cheer also. Pack 77 will have its own Christmas party December 23rd, at 7:30 p.m., during the pack meeting.

Science Museum To Sponsor Family Bus Trip To New York

The Springfield Science Museum is sponsoring a family bus trip to the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, Saturday, January 10th.

The American Museum offers a spectacular mineral and gem display, one of the most comprehensive dinosaur exhibits in the world, a life-sized replica of a blue whale, and dozens of other exhibit halls. There is also a large planetarium and a four-story-high Nature Max theater. The museum offers guided tours throughout the day, and lunch is available in the cafeteria or the lovely new American Museum Restaurant.

A special attraction in January will be an exhibit focusing on the Ice Age. **Dark Caves, Bright Visions** brings together the largest collection of original paleolithic artifacts ever shown in one place. The exhibit features more than 300 original etchings, sculptures, and tools from European and North American collections, as well as replicas of cave paintings.

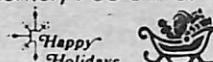
The bus will leave the Edwards Street parking lot at the Quadrangle at 7:00 a.m., and arrives back in Springfield at approximately 7:30 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$24 for adults and \$20 for children, 12 and under. The price includes the bus fare and admission to the museum. Reservations must be made by December 31st. Contact Sara Orr at the museum, 733-1194.

Child Abuse Committee Offers Prevention Project

The Child Sexual Abuse Committee of the Greater Westfield Area Council for Children is offering a Child Assault Prevention Project (CAPP) to area schools.

This community based and operated program pioneers a self-help model for the protection of children. The committee is seeking volunteers from the community to assist in this prevention program.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the program, please call Pat MacGuinnis or Debra Levy at the Agawam Counseling Center, 786-6410.



Beginning Band Students Set To Play Christmas Tunes

Beginning Band grade five pupils are enjoying the music of Christmas by learning and playing several programs of familiar songs for their parents, friends, and classmates in Grades four and five.

They will also wear their new Agawam band shirts as part of their uniforms. The programs are under the direction of Sally Lowell, Elementary Band director.

Programs will include many students playing traditional carols as solos, duets, and quartets. Others will play the popular "Rudolph, The Red Nosed Reindeer," "Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree," and "White Christmas."

Part One of the band performances gives listeners a quick musical ride, covering learning activities accomplished in the first two-and-a-half months of practice and lessons.

Part Two, will feature the bands playing traditional Christmas melodies.

Christmas refreshments follow.

School programs and their respective soloists as follows:

PHELPS SCHOOL: Thursday, December 18th, at 2:10 p.m., auditorium; **Robert Settembre, Kyle Stocum, Rena Chicklas, Jamie Gaudette, Dina Ciarmatori, Gary Jock, Jeff Ciempa, Jeff Leone, Jeffrey Campbell, and Jenny Mangano.**

ROBINSON PARK SCHOOL: Friday, December 19th, at 1:00 p.m., cafeteria; **Laura Asta-Ferrero, Jamie Giordano, Michelle Haugel, Tammy Leary, Amy Annino, Alison Jean, Tiffany Maleshefski, Jason Gilmarin, Ruth Ann Ostrander, Kathy Arenstam, and Stacy St. Peter.**

CLARK SCHOOL: Monday, December 22nd, at 2:00 p.m., cafeteria; **Debra Parslow, Jill Miller, Linda Labonte, Kimberly Hayes, Timothy LeDoux, and Linda and Ellen Labonte, guitar and flute.**

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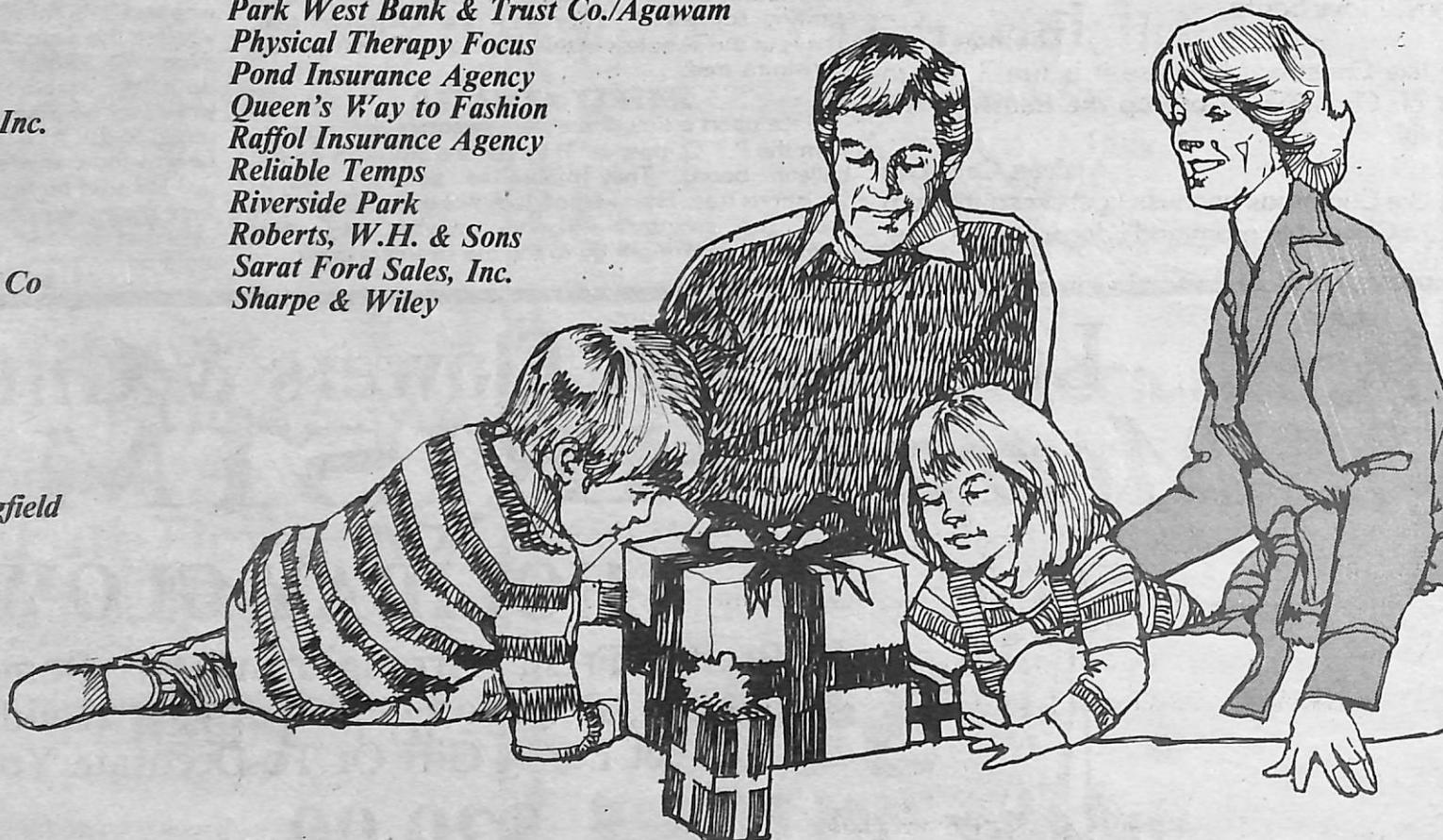
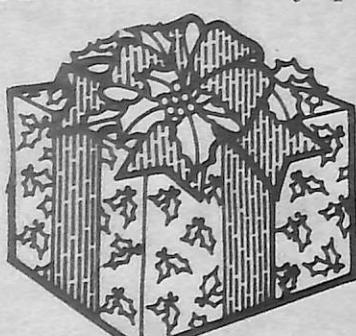
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"I Like Christmas Because....."

James Clark School - Bev DeGeorge & Angela Corde

I like Christmas because I like toys. I get to decorate our tree. I go skiing during school vacation. I give Santa's reindeer carrots.

Kyle Gendron
I like Christmas because I like presents. I like to open the presents and play with them.

Corinne Bernier
I like Christmas because I get lots of presents. I can play with my dog, Jessie.

Kristen Shubert
I like Christmas because of skiing. I like to put up candy canes on the tree. I like posters of Santa. I like the food my mom cooks.

Sean Kennedy
I like Christmas because I like presents. I like Christmas because it is fun. I like listening to Christmas carols.

Melissa Losito
I like Christmas because it is fun. I can be funny. I love Santa.

Thomas Case
I like Christmas because it is fun. I like to eat on Christmas. I put up the tree with my family.

Andrea Callahan
I like Christmas because I get presents from Santa Claus. My mom and I decorate our tree. I eat lots of food.

Stacy Fontana

I like Christmas because it is fun snowmobiling. I like opening presents.

Mark Christman

I like Christmas because I like Christmas reindeer. I like presents. I like Santa and his elves. Santa gives me presents.

Jocelyn Desrochers

I like Christmas because Santa brings presents. It is fun. I like his elves. I get toys and clothes. I like his reindeer.

Terri Zaar

I like Christmas because I put up the tree. It is fun to decorate the tree. I like throwing wrapping paper at my dad.

Angela Santanella

I like Christmas because I put up the Christmas tree with my grandma. I get lots of toys. They are fun to play with.

Maureen Dimock

I like Christmas because it is fun. I go skiing. I get to play with all my new toys.

Lee Kunkler

I like Christmas because I like to decorate the tree. I open lots of presents. I play with my toys.

Justin Petrangelo

I like Christmas because I get some presents. I like to open presents. I like to put up the tree with my family.

Anthony Hebert

The Mystery Sweaters by Granger School Students

KRISTIN TRAUSCHKE

Once upon a time little elves wanted to see what school was, so they went to Granger. It was big to them. They heard someone. The voice asked "Is anybody there?" The elves hid. But they left their sweaters near the big board. He made a Christmas tree out of them. They stayed there all through Christmas.

KEVIN TAMPONE

Once upon a time in Granger School the fifth grades were knitting. But why were they knitting? What were they knitting? No one is going to know until next year. They found out. They knitted sweaters. They were all drawing something. They drew the Christmas tree. They put the sweaters in the shape of a Christmas tree.

JEFFREY ATWATER

Once upon a time there were sweaters that came from the P.T.O. people. They put the sweaters on the bulletin board. They made the sweaters like a Christmas tree. The sweaters look like a nice Christmas tree. The sweaters will stay maybe until after Christmas. We might go to see the sweaters again.

DANIEL HOULE

Once upon a time at the north pole Santa's elves were making very special sweaters. After they were done they pick out a name of a school from the whole world. Santa Claus picked a name out. It was Granger School. That night the elves went to Granger School. They tried to be un conspicuous. They went inside and hung them up on the bulletin board. Since then no one knew who put them up, except me.

CARA-ANN FATTINI

Once upon a time there was this old and kind woman. Her name was Violet. Violet loved to knit. Violet knitted doll clothes and all sizes of sweaters. Violet lived in a small village with two houses on the three streets of her village. Violet loved to go downtown and watch the children go to school. Christmas was coming up so Violet made 33 little sweaters and formed them in a Christmas tree shape. She gave them to the school and they wished her a Merry Christmas!

JAMIE STERNOWSKI

Once upon a time a mouse was sitting in her cozy little hole in Granger School. One day while the children were working in school, Mrs. Mouse was knitting thirty-three little sweaters for the school. In eight hours she was done. Then Mrs. Mouse climbed up to the tree on the bulletin board with a big bag with all the sweaters. In the morning everyone looked at the bulletin board. They all thought, "Who could have made them?" So a child went running down the hall near Mrs. Mouse's hole, and right in front of it he fell and saw Mrs. Mouse. Then he went to tell everyone. They gave her a medal.

HEATHER ANDRAS

Once upon a time long ago there were some people living in Florida and one of them who was living there just happened to make sweaters. Very tiny sweaters too. The person delivered them to all sorts of places except to schools. She delivered them with her car. She thought that our school was another place. She slid all of the sweaters into a little box and slid it under the door. She went and got into her car and drove off before anyone could see her. I saw the little box. I picked it up and I opened it. There were little sweaters. I told my teacher and she said to ask Mr. Loomis about this. I didn't want him to get mad so I got tape and hung them up. That's how they got on the bulletin board.

REBECCA WHITE

Once upon a time there were some elves and they made dolls and sweaters all day. So one day the dolls were alive. They put on all the sweaters and walked away. They came upon a building and rested. Then they stapled all the sweaters on a bulletin board in the shape of a tree. It looked so pretty that the dolls left them there. That is how the Granger School got its sweaters.

MARYANN SPRING

Once upon a time someone put the Christmas sweaters upon the bulletin board. The question was who was it? I think it was a martian who made it and who put them up. My friend said that there was no such thing. We asked the teachers. They said they did not do it. We asked Mr. Loomis. He said no. We both wondered who was it. We saw a martian. We were afraid to ask if he did it. I asked him in a shaky voice if he was the one who made the sweaters and put them up? He said he had and asked us if we thought they were pretty. We said we guessed they were. Then he went and we never saw him or another martian again. I am glad.

SEE KIDS' KORNER - Page 39...

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ANDREW MARKOWSKI

Once upon a time before Granger school was built there were these little men called elves. It was around Christmas so the elves were getting ready for Christmas. Then right in the middle of all the work, Granger, the head of all the elves, said, "My fellow elves, I have two things to tell you. First, we are going to build a magical building for all us elves to work in and make things in. I already have all the magical stuff and the things we need to build it, but we need something to keep us warm."

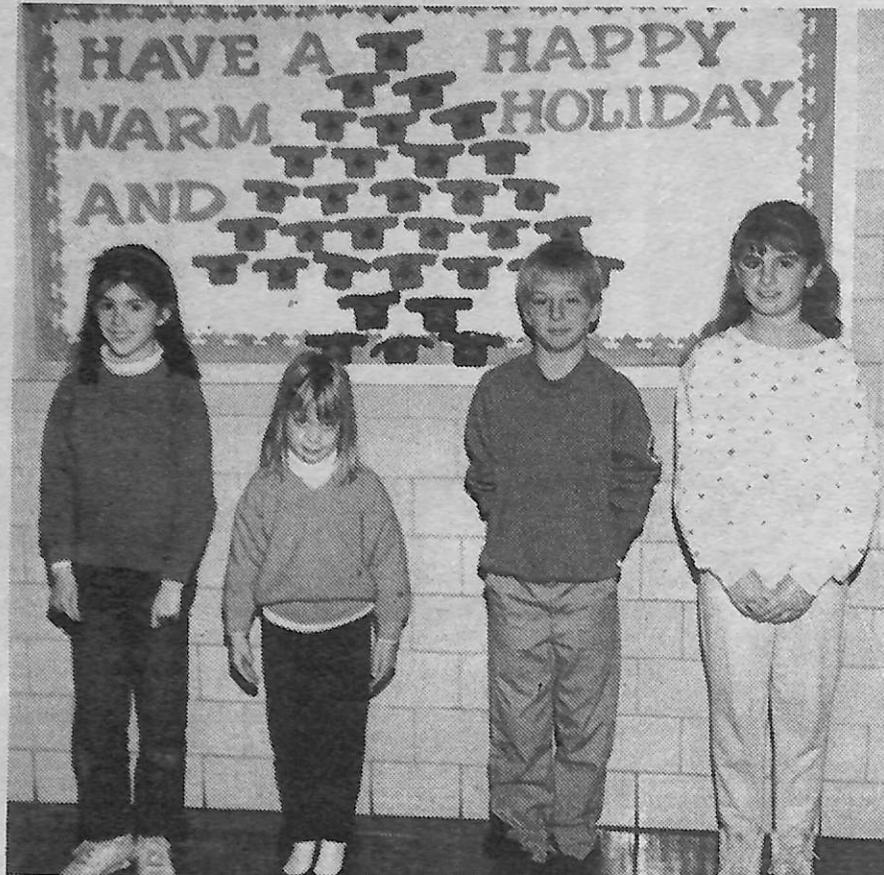
Then his assistant, C.M., hand out little red sweaters with green Christmas trees on them. "Here!" he said. "All you elves take one of these magical sweaters." So all the elves built their building. Then on Christmas, about 20 years later, Granger said, "My fellow elves, all of you take off your sweaters and hang them on the bulletin board in the shape of a Christmas tree." So they did. Then on Christmas, one year later, Granger and C.M. turned all the elves into children, teachers, paper, pencils, desks, and stuff like that. That's how the red sweaters of C.M. Granger School got to be here. If you want to see them come on down to C.M. Granger School and see them for yourself. While you are here take a look at what else C.M. Granger School has to offer. The End.

COURTNIE HYLAND

Once upon a time I was walking down the hall and I noticed that a sweater was missing in the Christmas tree. I told Mrs. Dc that a sweater was missing. She said what a surprise! She told Mrs. Barnes. She said the same thing in surprise! She told Mr. Loomis. He said, "Oh now!" He went into every classroom upstairs. Then he went downstairs and looked there.

He didn't see any sweater. Mr. Loomis looked in the closet, and in desks, pants, jackets, and pockets. He was going crazy!

SEE KIDS' KORNER - Page 40...



THOSE FAMOUS SWEATERS AT GRANGER SCHOOL are pictured behind students, from left - Keri Demers, Lorin McCarthy, Christopher Wilkey, and Diana DiTomaso. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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KIDS' KORNER - From Page 39...

Then he looked in the cafeteria, and what do you know! There was a P.T.O. leader holding it. Showing it as an example so the P.T.O. could make more.

CHRISTIAN DEBONVILLE

Once upon a time I was walking down the hall carrying a note for a 1st grade teacher, when some little furry thing scurried in behind the tree. I couldn't see it clear enough to explain his color. Anyway, I went to the teacher and told her what I said. "You know, you have a nice imagination," she said. "Their loss, not mine," I said to myself as I walked toward my classroom.

I got into my chair and raised my hand. I told my teacher what I told the other teacher. The children in my class laughed, and I could see my teacher had put her teeth together so she would not laugh, either.

Just then the telephone rang. After my teacher hung up she said, "There have been many creature bites at this school. Unknown creatures!" she said.

Then the janitor walked in. "The Christmas tree outside my office is mysteriously losing sweaters," he said. I smiled.

That night I walked back to school with my camera and watched some creatures scurry through the door. Nothing happened until 9:00 p.m.

A bright light filled the air and a UFO landed on the lawn of Clifford M. Granger School. A set of stairs fell down and then something really strange happened.

Out came 2 zillion little blue furry creatures. They marched to the front steps and went in.

I was too amazed! I couldn't get a picture. About 5 minutes later, happy little creatures came out—with sweaters!

I clicked my camera and took a picture. Later I showed the picture to the same 1st Grade Teacher. "Some imagination, huh!"

SHAWN ANDERSON

Once upon a Time...Mr. Loomis our principal was cold because Jean our janitor broke the heater because Mr. Loomis fell on Jean's glasses. Mr. Loomis asked Mrs. Barris our secretary if she could knit him a sweater. Mrs. Barris said she didn't know how to knit. So she went to room 1, my class, and asked Mrs. Conboy if she knew how to knit. She said yes. But Mrs. Conboy just started knitting. When Mrs. Conboy's class heard this, it was over the school in five minutes. Everyone wanted a sweater. When she made the sweaters they were so small no one wanted them. They were worthless. But Tim the brain of the class thought of something. Why not make it into a Christmas tree. And they did and that is how it got on the bulletin board.

BRUCE CORTIS

Once upon a time...at Granger School in the basement there was an old witches castle that held thirty three little good elves. The witches name was Uglya. She was none for her ugliness she cracked 999,999 mirrors. The good elves had special powers. They could make clothing and food. Until one day the queen found out.

She took all their magical powers and all their clothes and food except for thirty three little sweaters. The elves decided the would send the sweaters upstairs. So one daring elf brought them up to the first person he saw. The first person was the president of the P.T.O., Marie Ferris. She decided to hang them up in the form of a Christmas tree. That's the story of the thirty-three sweater.

**Submitted by Janice DeFilipi
Grade 3 Teacher—Granger School**

There is a little town in Massachusetts called Feeding Hills. Feeding Hills may be a weird name to some, but it's a great place to live. It is also a wonderful place to learn, especially if you go to Clifford M. Granger School.

Granger School is a two-story brick building. It has a flagpole in the front and a playground in the back. It looks like any ordinary elementary school. But I know of something strange going on inside that building that no one else knows about!

On any given day, if you were to enter the front door, you would probably see Mrs. Barnes, our secretary, talking on two phones at once while typing out a file at the same time! Mrs. Malachowski, our nurse, would probably be giving a hearing test to five first graders, finding some dry pants for a kindergarten kid, and sopping-up a fifth grader's bloody nose.

Of course, Mr. Loomis, our principal, would be at the new copier machine unclogging a stuck ditto. He would probably greet you in his jovial manner and ask if he could help you in any way!

If you took a brief walk down any corridor and glanced in the rooms, you would see the happy Granger children, including me, sitting at our desks doing morning work, while well-manicured teachers smiled, collected lunch money, and took attendance. You may see a few PTO moms scurrying about doing good deeds, and Granger's fantastic custodians wiping-up some mess or repairing the water fountain's very low

The Agawam Advertiser News

pressure. So far, you would probably think that this looks like a very normal elementary school! Well, let me tell you, you would be wrong!

It being the Christmas season, you would probably notice the bulletin board in the upstairs hall. It has a white background with a two-inch, red, french-cut border all around. Red paper letters spell out **HAVE A WARM AND HAPPY HOLIDAY.**

In the center of the board, you would see a Christmas tree. At first glance it looks like a red tree with green ornaments. But upon closer inspection, you would see that the tree was actually made up of tiny, knitted red sweaters, with green Christmas trees embroidered on the front of them.

The sweaters are arranged in a triangle pattern representing a Christmas tree. Each one, no larger than a Barbie doll size-sweater, is an exact replica of a human-size sweater. If one of these sweaters were enlarged 25 times, it would probably fit you or me, and be very warm and comfortable.

Perhaps, you would wonder where these tiny sweaters come from and why they were displayed on our bulletin board! Well, that's where my story begins. I'm going to tell you about the mystery of the Granger School Christmas Sweaters!

Once upon a time.....

December 18, 1986

Julie Mercadante Earns Certified Travel Counselor

Julie A. Mercadante, CTC, travel consultant from Fugazy International Travel, Springfield, recently earned the professional designation of CTC (Certified Travel Counselor) from the national Institute of Certified Travel Agents, based in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

A life-long Agawam resident, Mrs. Mercadante joins over 8,400 other travel professionals across the country in achieving this distinction.

To receive certification, she had to acquire a minimum of five years full-time travel experience and complete a two-year, graduate-level course in ethical and efficient travel management. She also had to pass four, four-hour exams and write a travel paper.

The Institute of Certified Travel Agents is the one nonprofit, educational arm of the travel industry. Over 7,500 candidates nationwide are studying for the CTC designation, which was established in 1964.

Mrs. Mercadante writes a regular column for the *Advertiser News* called "Let's Talk Travel."

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Sacred Heart Pack 77 Continues To Be Success Story

One thing can be said of Cub Scout Pack 75 under the leadership of Jack & Nancy Hallbauer; that is successful.

The pack, which is based at Sacred Heart Church, Feeding Hills, has an evergrowing membership. At last count, there were 68 cubs and Webelos and 18 Tigers.

Not only are we talking numbers, but their success can be measured in activities and awards.

At a recent meeting, trophies were handed out for uniforms (attending all functions in complete cub scout uniform) and attendance. Receiving trophies were:

Matthew Radwanski (Den 5)—uniform and attendance; **James Ellsworth (Den 5)**—uniform and attendance; **Chad Boucher (Den 5)**—uniform; and **Kyle Stocum (Den 5)**—uniform.

In September, the following awards were earned:

Justin Malek (Den 5)—Bobcat; **Jeffrey Harlin (Den 5)**—Bobcat; **Christopher Bouley (Den 5)**—Bobcat; **Neil Crowley (Den 3)**—2 silver arrows under Wolf; and **Kyle Stocum (Den 5)**—Bear and 1 gold arrow.

Also, the following cubs from Den 4 received their Bobcat:

Matthew Molleur, Donald Hanna, Stephen Sherman, Daniel Lancour, Ryan Hedges, and Timothy Briggs.

Many boys received recruiting patches. These boys encouraged another young man to join scouting. These boys received the recruiter patches:

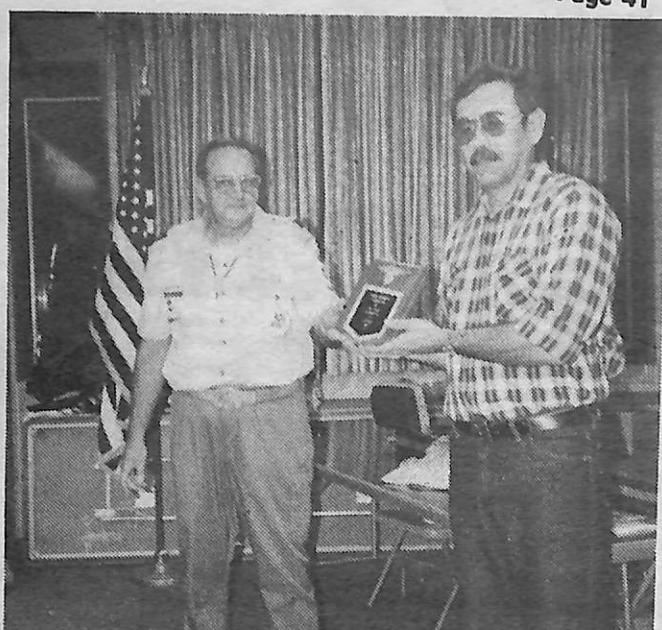
Nathan Wooley, Den 1; Patrick Brames, Webelo; John Manning, Webelo; Neil Crowley, Den 3; Anthony Greenway, Den 5; Thomas Greenway, Den 5; Jason Ellsworth, Den 5; Christopher Bouley, Den 5; Michael Dion, Den 5; Robert Fleming, Den 5; and Brian Bouley, Den 5.

Also at a recent meeting, two leaders were recognized for their dedication to the pack. One went to Sandy Golembiewski, who for three years was a den leader. Thank you, Sandy, for your dedication and enthusiasm.

Another plaque was presented to John Brames. Dedication and enthusiasm are understatements when it comes to John. For eight continuous years, John has given of himself (his home and family, too!) to be a Webelo leader for the Pack. "We hope, John, that you know how much your work is appreciated by the pack, parents, boys, and the community," said Mrs. Hallbauer.



CUBMASTER JACK HALLBAUER presents award to Sandra Golembiewski for being a den "Mom" for three years, while her husband, Martin, looks on.



JACK HALLBAUER, cubmaster of Pack 75, Sacred Heart Church, presents award to John Brames for eight continuous years as a Webelo leader.

Program On Shea's Rebellion At Historic Museum Jan. 8th

On the second Thursday of the month, the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum presents "History Sandwiched In," a lunch-time lecture program. This month to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Shays' Rebellion, one of the events that spurred the writing of the Constitution. The documentary film, "A Little Rebellion Now and Then" will be shown, Thursday, January 8th, from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m.

Come join us while we step back in time to witness the troubles and unrest of Western Massachusetts farmers 200 years ago.

"History Sandwiched In" lunchtime lectures are offered monthly at the museum. The audience is welcome to bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea will be served. Admission is \$2, and \$1 for Friends of the

Quadrangle.

The Connecticut Valley Historical Museum is supported in part by grants from the Springfield Arts Lottery, the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, and the Institute of Museum Services.

The historical museum is located on the Quadrangle, at the corner of State and Chestnut Streets in downtown Springfield, and is a unit of the Springfield Library and Museums Association.

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Sports

Agawam High Winter Sports PREVIEW

Wrestling - Boys & Girls Basketball, Hockey with Mike Sardella

AHS Grapplers True Div. I Power

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

The Agawam High School wrestling team, to say the least, is looking good in 1986-87. With more than a dozen returnees and two defending Western Mass. champs in the ranks, the local matmen will undoubtedly (again) make a lot of noise in Western Mass. this year.

Returning for his 14th season is coach Phil Tomkiel, easily one of the finest coaches ever in any sport at the high school. Over the past three years, the team has compiled a 32-4 record in Division I, and Tomkiel promises more of the same as the winter season unfolds.

"The guys are looking exceptionally well for so early in the year," says Tomkiel, a teacher at the Agawam Middle School. "The kids are all working very hard and we appear very strong in all weight classes, especially from 134-pounds and up."

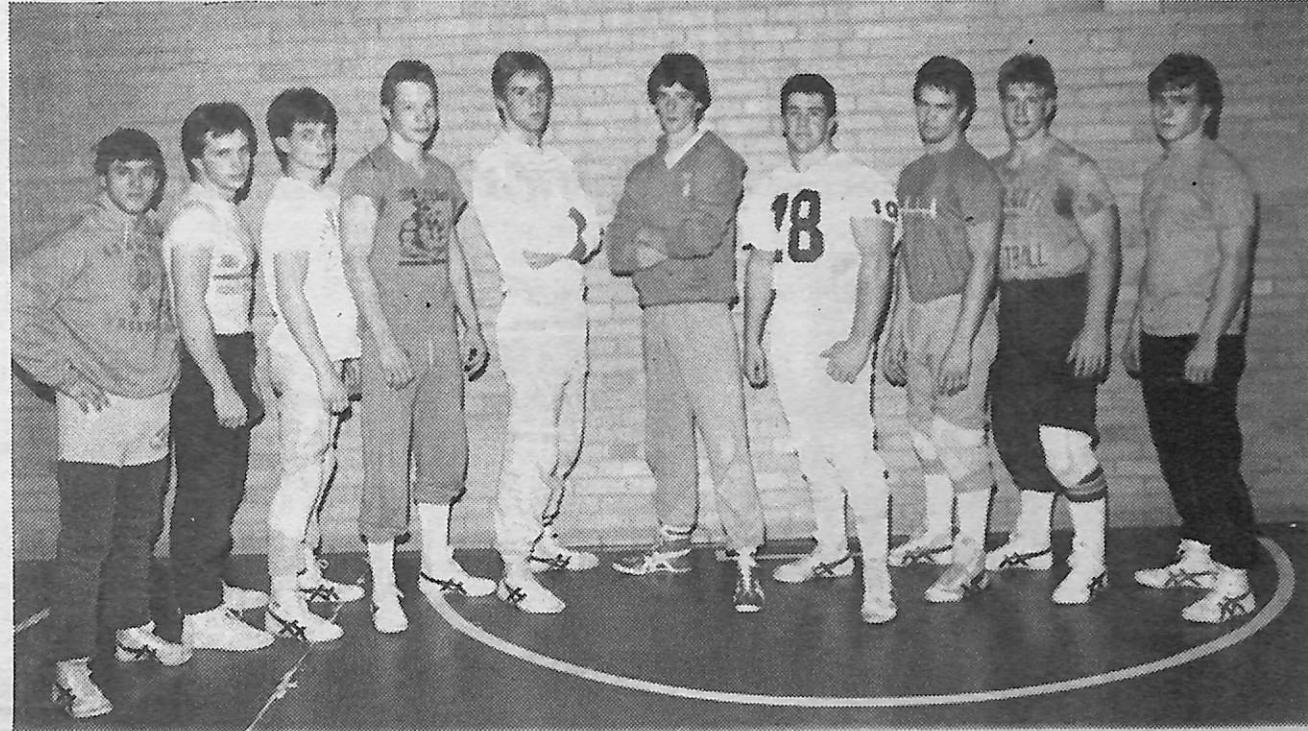
The Brownie grapplers finished 11-1 last year (9-0 in the league, regular-season champs), and placed se-

cond to powerhouse Putnam in the Western Mass. Tournament. According to Tomkiel, with the talent back this year, the Brownies will challenge for the Western Mass title.

Returning to the squad is Jim Pirro, who was undefeated in 1985-86 in the 100-pound class, as well as winning the Western Mass. title. Pirro placed fifth in Massachusetts Schoolboy Wrestling a year ago. He will be battling in the 114-pound class this year.

Tri-captain Bob Beaulieu, who was a terror in the 107-pound division last winter (Western Mass. champion), will wrestle at 121-pounds this year. Tom Cascio, who finished third in Western Mass. and fifth in the state at 128-pounds, will compete in the 134-pound class.

SEE GRAPPLERS - Page 43...



SENIOR MEMBERS of the Agawam High School varsity wrestling team are, from left - Bob Morassi, Gary Cerpovitz, Bob Beaulieu, Joe Barrett, Tom King, Jim Frasco, Bobby Altobelli, Jeff O'Keefe, Vin Pallotta, and Mike Pedro. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Brownie Matmen Open With Easy Whitewash Of Hopkins Academy

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

With four pins and eight forfeits, the Agawam High wrestling team opened the 1986-87 season with a 72-0 shellacking of undermanned Hopkins Academy, Tuesday, December 16th, at the academy.

This marked the first time the team has ever completed a clean sweep of all weight classes in a meet. Coach Phil Tomkiel was quick to say that such a lopsided victory "is not in our best interests over the long haul."

"I've always believed that tough competition brings out the best in athletes," offered Tomkiel. "In effect, you improve that much more with the challenge. This is why I don't like these type of meets, but there's not much anyone can do about it."

The eight forfeit wins were in the following weight classes: 100, 107, 114, 121, 128, 169, 187, and heavyweight. These forfeits resulted in 48 points for the Brownies.

The four Brownie grapplers who did have competition didn't exert much energy, except for newcomer Gary Cerpovitz in the 147-pound category.

In the 134-pound class, Tom Cascio needed only 28 seconds to pin Hopkins' Donald Hylton. In the 140-pound class, Jim Frasco pinned Peter Cosakowski midway through the second period.

The day's most competitive match took place in the 147-pound class. Cerpovitz pinned Hank Cook at the 4:51 mark after trailing most of the match. At the end of the first period, Cerpovitz trailed, 5-2, and after the second period, he still trailed, 10-8.

Cerpovitz tied Cook at 12-12 early in the final period, and then pinned him with just over a minute left in the match.

"Gary simply tired-out his opponent," said Tomkiel. "He wore him down and pulled-out a nice win. It was a good way for a newcomer to start the season."

In the 157-pound class, Tony Langone recorded the Brownies' fourth pin at the 2:30 mark over Scott Galzari.

Next-up for Agawam High's matmen is Ludlow, Saturday, December 20th, at the high school (starting time is 1:00 p.m.).

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AAA Girls Tip-Off Winners

In its second year of competition, the Agawam Athletic Association-sponsored fifth and sixth grades Girls' Suburban Basketball League team won the West Springfield Tip-Off Tournament championship, Sunday, December 14th, with a thrilling, come-from-behind victory over a very good West Side team.

Last year, the Agawam team lost in the finals to the same club. This year's edition of the AAA girls features returnees Laura Bielitz, Cheryl Collins, and Kim Trudel.

Also contributing to this year's team are newcomers Debbie Conklin, Kristen Schmaelzle, Cindy Stone, and Amy Tozier.

In the championship game, the Agawam team led by only a single point after one quarter of play. The West Side contingent came to life in the second quarter to take the lead by five points.

After an Agawam timeout to re-group, the locals applied an aggressive defense and timely shooting to recapture the lead by a single point at intermission.

The locals continued to apply the same type of pressure in the third period to boost their lead by seven points.

The West Side team was not through, however, and several minutes later had reduced the Agawam margin to a single point. A late fourth quarter flurry was enough to carry the Agawam team to victory in this exciting game.

Coach Rene Trudel expresses his gratitude to the Agawam Athletic Association, particularly to Vice President Robert Hersey for the opportunity to compete in the tourney, as well as the Suburban League.

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GRAPPLERS - From Page 42...

Another fine Brownie, Jim Frasco, a fourth place finisher in Western Mass., will wrestle at 140-pounds. Gary Cerpovic returns at 147-pounds, while Tony Langone will again serve as a strong force in the 157-pound division. He was third in Western Mass. a year ago.

Tri-captain Tom King returns to the line-up in the 169-pound division after finishing second in Western Mass., and Vinnie Pallotta, the AAN's varsity football MVP, will show his stuff at 185-pounds. Tri-captain Bob Altobelli, a fine two-way grid player, will be returning as the team's heavyweight. Altobelli was second in Western Mass. a year ago.

And the list continues. Fine newcomers on this team include Joey Walz (100), Danny Felix (107), and Mike Gasteyer (147). There are also several grapplers in the ranks who would easily start for many other schools, but due to the large turnout and depth of this team, they might have to wait their turn.

With such a stacked team, Tomkiel has good reason to smile. The sky seems the limit in 1986-87.

"We really won't be thoroughly tested until the Christmas Tournament we are hosting this year," said Tomkiel. "The talent we have is first-class, and after it's over, we'll know just how good we really were this year. Looking at the way things are going now, I can tell you one thing - it's going to be a fun season."

At presstime, the Brownie matmen were facing Hopkins Academy to open the campaign, and then open their home slate, Saturday, December 20th vs. Ludlow, then against a weak Southwick squad, Tuesday, December 23rd (Away).

CAPSULE OUTLOOK

COACH: Phil Tomkiel, 14th year

LAST YEAR'S RECORD: 11-1; 9-0 in league, regular season champions; runners-up in Western Mass. Division I

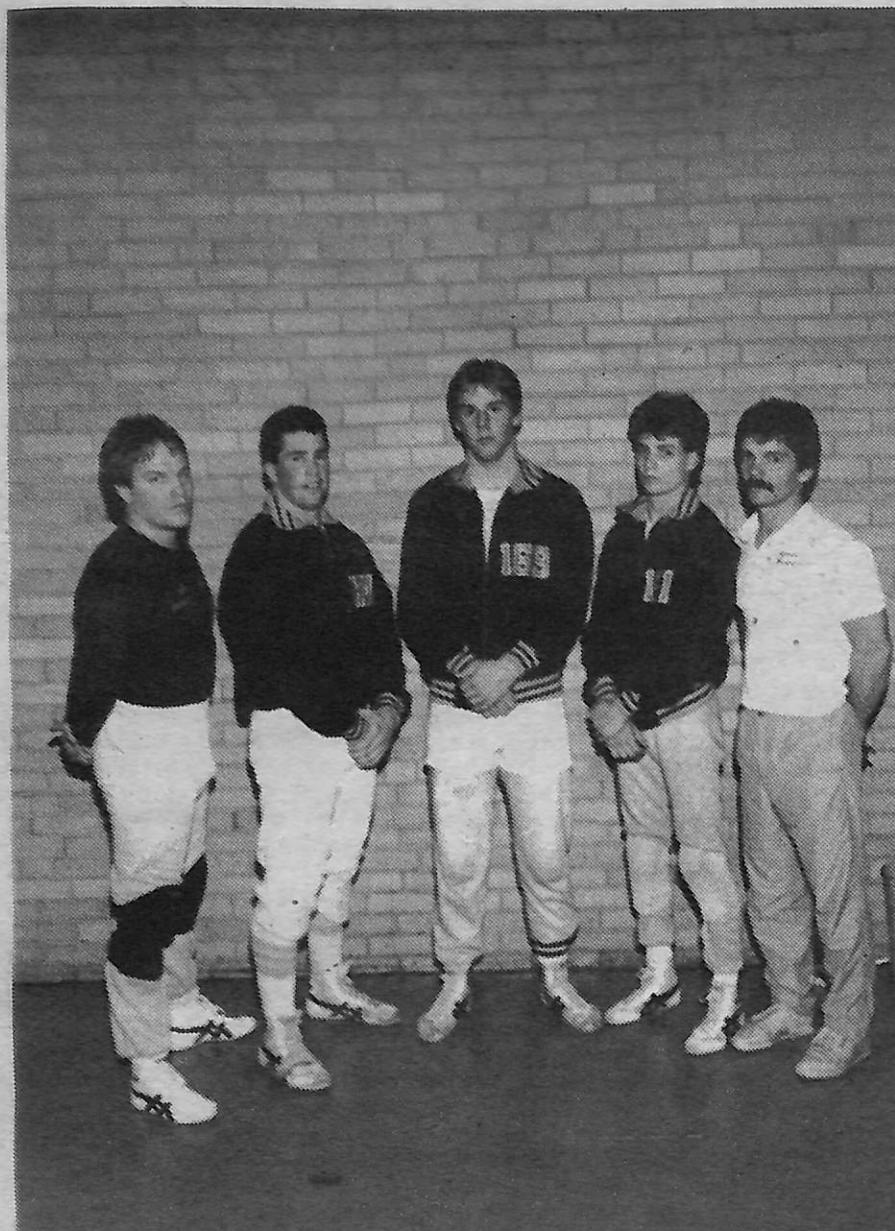
RETURNERS: Jim Pirro (114), Bob Beaulieu (121), Bob Dodge (121), Alan Boucher (128), Rob Morassi (128), Tom Cascio (134), Jim Frasco (140), Joe Barrett (140), Mike Pedro (140), Gary Cerpovicz (147), Tony Langone (157), Tom King (169), Jeff O'Keefe (159), Vinnie Pallotta (187), Bob Altobelli (heavyweight), and Scott Mazza (heavyweight).

PROMISING NEWCOMERS: Joey Walz (100), Mike Phelps (100), Danny Felix (107), Mike Gasteyer (147), and Billy Birdy (147), and Rich DiLullo

STRENGTHS: experience, depth, excellent talent

WEAKNESS: 107-pounds still untested

OUTLOOK: Excellent



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL wrestling tri-captains are pictured with their coaches, Gary Geiger (left-assistant), and Phil Tomkiel (right). Tri-captains for the powerful 1986-87 Brownies are, from left - Bobby Altobelli, Tom King, and Bob Beaulieu. Advertiser News

photo by Jack Devine.

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Lockwood's Hoop Beats OT Buzzer

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

Junior Jim Lockwood definitely has the ability for season-opening dramatics. When the varsity football team opened its season last September, Lockwood raced for an electrifying, 80-yard touchdown that squarely put the Brownies in the driver's seat.

On Tuesday night, Lockwood sank a 12-foot jumper at the buzzer in the first overtime to lift the Brownies to a season-opening, 60-59 victory over Holyoke High in schoolboy basketball, Tuesday, December 16th.

It was Lockwood who had pushed the barnburner into overtime as he sank a free throw at the end of regulation play to knot the score at 56-56.

On the final play in OT, forward Jeff Peterson rebounded a missed Holyoke foul shot and passed downcourt to Lockwood. The shifty guard fiddled and fiddled to the baseline and hit the game-winner as the buzzer sounded.

"What a great way to start the season" said happy coach Mike Martin in the jubilant Brownies locker-room. "It was a fine team effort and this win has given the team some much-needed confidence.

The Brownies opened a 17-9 first quarter lead with some fine shooting. At the half, Holyoke had cut the margin to 27-23, allowing the home folks back to catch-up with some rather shoddy play (turnovers, bad shots).

The game was back-and-forth in the second half. The game was deadlocked at 39-39 at the end of the third quarter, setting the stage for a wild final period when Lockwood's foul shot brought the Brownies from the jaws of defeat (56-56).

Neither team did much in the OT; only seven points were scored overall. But it was settled when Lockwood tossed up his baseline jumper at the buzzer for the victory. If the Boston Celtics play-by-play man had been at the scene, his voice would have been long gone.

The Brownies were led by solid pivot-man Rob Vandergrift with 13 points. Another new player, Chris Ollari, another junior, tallied 12, and forward Mike DiLullo popped 10. Peterson was the fourth Brownie in double digits with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Lockwood finished with 7. Holyoke's outstanding Derek Brown led all scorers with 26.

Martin was especially pleased with the Brownies' balanced scoring, as well as the play of several of his new players.

Next-up for the Brownies is Commerce, Friday, December 19th, at the high school. After this game, the Brownies have more than a week off before returning to the hardwood against a tough Cathedral High quintet. Saturday, December 27th, a 2:00 p.m.

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Martin Looks To Youth In AHS Hoop

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

Returning for his second year at the varsity basketball helm, Feeding Hills resident Mike Martin is hoping his troops can overcome the loss of seven graduating seniors and the very important experience factor.

A year ago, Martin restored pride in the school's basketball program after three nightmarish years where the Brownies lost a state-high 58 consecutive games. The locals fought back to more than respectability, finishing at 11-9.

"We lost a lot of fine players last year, but we have excellent young talent coming into the program," states Martin, who formerly coached Commerce High of Springfield to many Western Mass. and several state championships. "We have a very scrappy team with good balance."

Martin losses nearly his entire frontline (Paul Scoville, Paul Fetherston, Ray LeClair, Mike Avis, and Scott Pemberton), as well as play-making guards Mike Chausse and Tim Lockwood. The absence of these players leaves the squad inexperienced. Only four lettermen are back in 1986-87.

Three of the four returnees are guards. Jim Hansen (senior), Nick Carra (senior), and Jim Lockwood (junior) should provide the Brownies with solid backcourt play. The other returner is junior forward Jeff Peterson, who will bang the boards and can fill the hole with his hustling style of play.

Martin is also counting on newcomer Ron Vandergrift to be the workhorse in the middle. This senior center, says Martin, has the potential to score points in a bundle. And with his six-foot frame, Vandergrift should be grabbing the big bounds, too.

Another newcomer who will figure prominently in the scheme of things is junior Paul Poole. Poole, one of the defensive heroes of the Western Mass. champion soccer Brownies, will further solidify the backcourt.

There are six newcomers to the frontline this year. They include juniors Chris Ollari, Mike DiLullo, Joe Kosinski, and Jeff Reece, and sophomores Eric Fogg and John Serra.

Martin will be assisted this year by Dean Vecchiarelli, a former AHS grad who is a math teacher at the junior high school.

Martin fully realizes the Brownies have plenty of road blocks before them this year, especially in the first-half of the campaign. It will be here they face many independent games with strong Division I schools. After this, the Brownies will return to Valley Wheel competition where Longmeadow is touted as the favorite this year.

"Although the competition is tough, I believe these guys can hold their own against many teams," says Martin. "We will be running the floor a lot, and we have some excellent shooters. We will also try to put a lot of pressure on our opponents to force turnovers."

Martin finished his pre-season preview of his team by saying, "We have some fine talent on the team and we look to be very balanced. Hopefully, we can gain some experience early-on. It should be a fun and interesting season for us," he added.

The Brownies opened their 20-game schedule, Tuesday, December 16th, with a dramatic, overtime victory over Holyoke, in the Paper City. They will meet traditional power Springfield Commerce, Friday, December 19th, in their home opener.

CAPSULE OUTLOOK:

COACH: Mike Martin, 2nd year

LAST YEAR'S RECORD: 11-9

RETURNERS: Jim Hansen (G), Nick Carra (G), Jeff Peterson (F), and Jim Lockwood (G)

PROMISING NEWCOMERS: Rob Vandergrift (C), Paul Poole (G), Chris Ollari (F), Joe Kosinski (F), Mike DiLullo (F), Jeff Reece (F), Eric Fogg (C), and John Serra (F)

STRENGTHS: Team depth, team speed

WEAKNESS: Lack of experience, schedule

OUTLOOK: Fair (borderline of Good)

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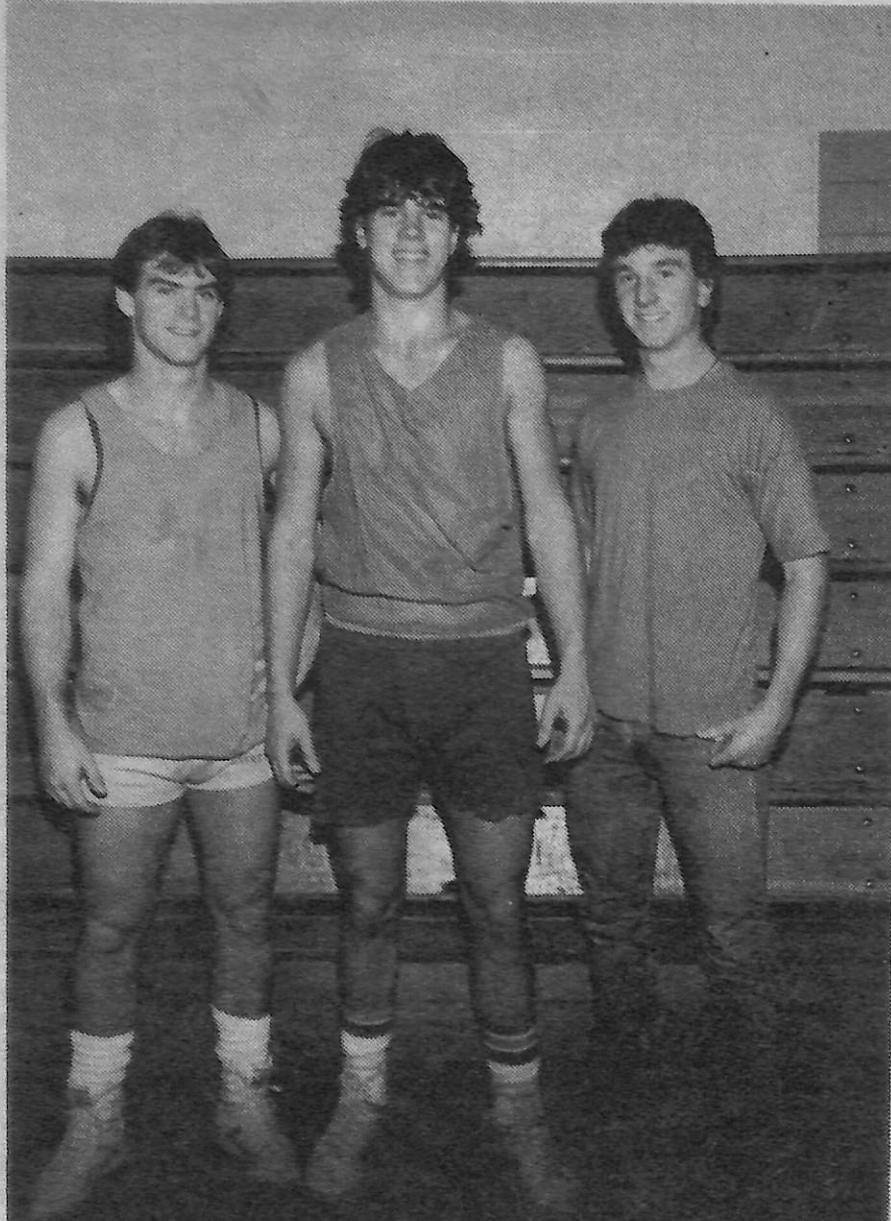
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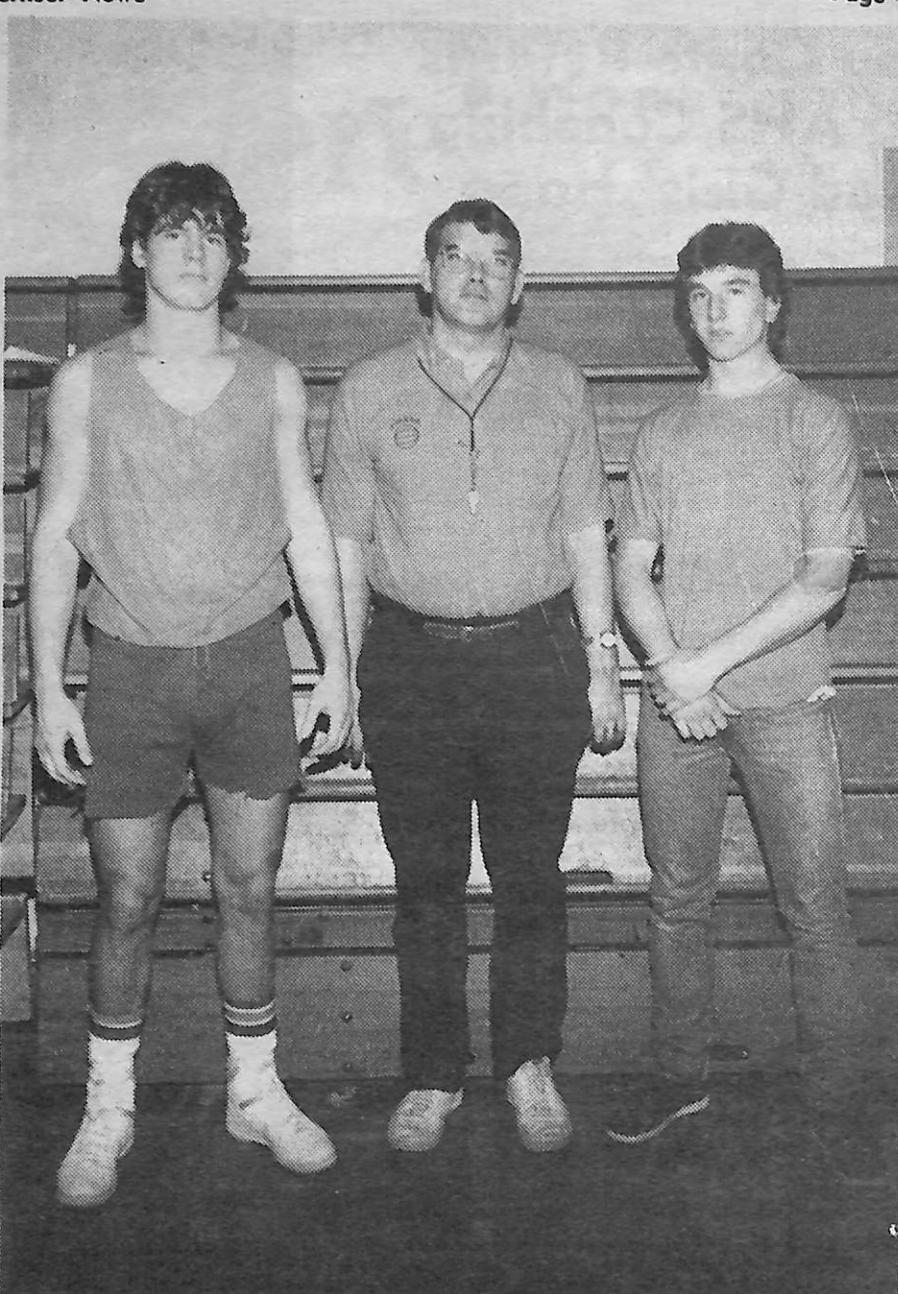


SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL boys' varsity basketball team this year who will figure prominently in the scheme of things are, from left - Nick Carra, Rob Vandergrift, and Jim Hanson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Many Holiday Happenings Planned For Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

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penings" program, December 26th, 27th, 30th, and 31st. You can enjoy the sanctuary's trails and exhibits with your family and friends, browse our gift shop from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. to select fine natural history gifts, and for something extra-



SECOND-YEAR AGAWAM HIGH VARSITY HOOP COACH Mike Martin (center), pictured with his co-captains, Rob Vandergrift (left) and Jim Hanson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Lou Conte Returns To AHS Coaching To Lead Girls' Hoop

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

After being away from the boys' basketball program at Agawam High for three years, coach Lou Conte has returned - this time to direct the girls' varsity hoop team.

Conte was involved in the boys' program for eight years, coaching the junior varsity for three and the varsity for five. He led the Brownies to the Division B title in 1982, as well as the semifinals in the Western Mass. tourney in both 1980 and 1982. His last season was in 1982-83, and then he left the winter program to raise a family with his wife, Debbie.

Under Conte, who teaches physical education at the Agawam Middle School, the girls will be looking to definitely improve on last season's disappointing 7-13 record. With six returning members, the town has experience in 1986-87, but will be hurting in the height department. The Brownies are small, and Conte remains worried about the team's ability to rebound - often the difference in most games.

If the locals enjoy success this winter, two players must excell - Kelli Trudel and Trish Landry. Trudel is the workhorse-type, and she will be the team's main force off the backboards while getting her share of points.

Landry, the AAN's girls' soccer MVP, can do it all. She runs the court, passes, scores, and leads by example. Her hustling style of play will be a factor in each game. Conte says Landry must produce for the Brownies to win.

Other returners who will make valuable contributions are Carolyn Jochim, Anande Long, Tracy Trudel, and Lori Desimone. Newcomers to the team include Becky Runshaw, Sharon Bisbee, Karen Paterson (an outstanding freshman athlete who led the girls' varsity soccer team in scoring), and Kathy Scaggs.

Desimone and Scaggs can also score, especially from long range. With better-than-average speed, the team should get its share of steals and fastbreak hoops.

"At this point, all the positions haven't been set,"



THE FORTUNES OF the Agawam High girls' varsity basketball team in 1986-87 will rest heavily on the shoulders of the team's four seniors, from left - Sharon Bisbee, Kelli Trudel, Carolyn Jochim, and Tricia Landry. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

said Conte at presstime. "We need a couple of games under our belt for the girls to really start working together. Once they get a feel for each other, as well as a new system this year, we should be fine."

Conte's troops have a tough season facing them, but Conte has a distinct way of bringing the best out of his players. This year should be no exception. His presence on the court should make it an interesting season for the locals.

The team's 19-game schedule began Tuesday, December 16th, vs. Holyoke, followed by Minnechaug Regional, Friday, December 19th (home opener), and Northampton, Monday, December 22nd (away).

CAPSULE OUTLOOK:

COACH: Lou Conte, first year

LAST YEAR'S RECORD: 7-13

RETURNERS: Kelli Trudel, Trish Landry, Lori Desimone, Carolyn Jochim, Anade Long, and Tracy Trudel

PROMISING NEWCOMERS: Kathy Scaggs, Sharon Bisbee, Becky Runshaw, and Karen Patterson

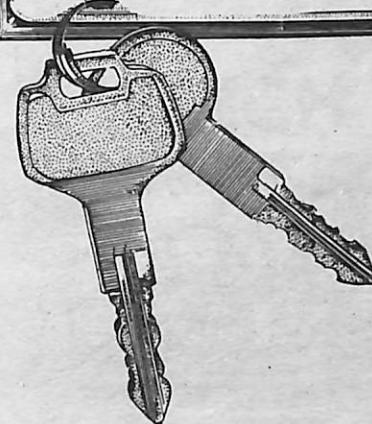
STRENGTHS: Good returning corps of players; quickness,

WEAKNESS: Lack of height may leave Brownies short on the boards

OUTLOOK: Good

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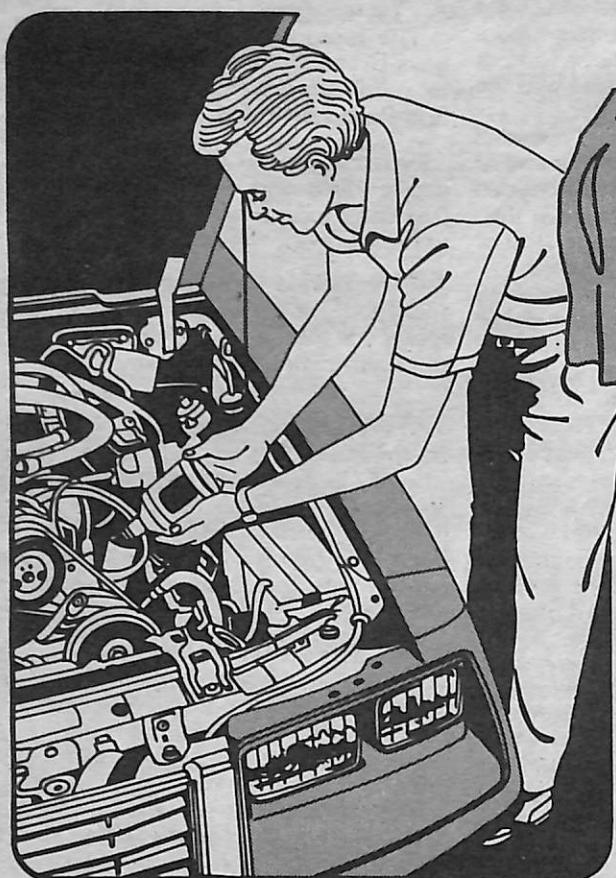
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Trudel Injured As Brownie Girls Fall In OT In Hoop Opener

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' basketball Brownies opened the 1986-87 campaign with two setbacks - the locals dropped a tough, 46-40 overtime decision to independent Holyoke High, Tuesday, December 16th, at the high school. And even worse than the loss was the injury to senior Kelli Trudel late in the game.

Trudel, one of the team leaders who is badly needed under the boards, suffered a leg injury near the end of regulation play. At press time, she will be sidelined for anywhere from two to four weeks. That's not the way first-year coach Lou Conte envisioned the start of his new venture.

Conte, the former three-sport star athlete for AHS who now teaches at the middle school, had his debut spoiled by a tough Purple Knight quintet. After the locals had opened a 20-14 halftime lead, the visitors picked up the tempo in the second half to catch the Brownies.

The score see-sawed in the fourth quarter, ending in regulation at 34-34. Trudel went down in the final seconds with the injury. Her absence hurt. The emotional impact of losing such a valuable team leader also was a factor in Holyoke taking control of the overtime session.

Senior Trish Landry led the way with 18 points. Trudel had grabbed 13 rebounds before her unexpected exit. The Brownies had a horrible game from the field, shooting just 30 percent. They were also outrebounded 2-1, and it was surprising they survived for so long.

"We played pretty well in the first half and did hold the lead," noted Conte. "But the girls started to stand around and we let them back into the game. Unfortunately, the circumstances were not in our favor during the overtime."

Next-up for Conte's troops is Minnechaug Regional, Friday, December 19th, at home, followed by a road visit to Northampton, Monday, December 22nd.

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Parolo - Punch Lead Brownie Sextet

by Michael S. Sardella
Advertiser News Sports Editor

The Agawam High School hockey team is hoping to not only improve on last year's 6-11-1 record, but make a bold move into the post-season tournament after a two-year absence, says second-year coach Len Bruso.

The team has 11 returners, and it is through these guys Bruso's plans heavily rely on. The team was hurt by graduation when big goal-scorers Pete Sibilia and Bob Barbarini collected their sheep skins last June.

Bruso says that the team will have to receive good goaltending and defense if they are to return to the Division I tournament in 1986-87. The offense appears to be somewhat thin.

"The league is quite balanced and very competitive this year," notes Bruso. "It will be a big fight for us to make the tournament, but I know the team is capable of playing some fine hockey."

The burden of scoring goals this year falls squarely on the shoulders of junior winger Rick Parolo. Parolo, who set a new AHS scoring record in the fall soccer season (27 goals), was a co-leader in team scoring a year ago with 19 goals and 18 assists. He must produce in big ways in 1986-87 for the team to be successful. Parolo is a bonafide candidate for All-Western Mass. honors at season's end.

The defense will be headed by junior Dennis Punch, another All-Western Mass. candidate for the Brownies. Punch can also put the puck in the net from the backline. He is one of those guys who Bruso calls "a team leader."

The goaltending duties will be shared by David Laudato and Tom Mesick. They are both capable. The Brownies will be much better off this year in low-scoring games, so it's the goaltending and defense who face the major tests of keeping them in, game-in and game-out.

For a tournament berth, the Brownies would have to scrap 19 points from their 19-game schedule. That would be at least 11 wins and a tie - that road is long and hard.

"We definitely have to have strong defensive performance each game," again stresses Bruso. "If we can maintain a balanced offense along the way, we would be ok. It remains to be seen how bad the guys want it this year."

Scott Pearson and Jim Laudato, says Bruso, also can put the puck into the net, but unfortunately, Parolo and Punch will draw most of the scoring load. The inexperience of the Brownies (including five freshmen) may hinder the team in the long run, as well.

The Brownies compete in the Berry Division, normally ruled by Cathedral, although Longmeadow has come-on in the last few years, and West Springfield is supposed to be vastly improved in 1986-87.

CAPSULE OUTLOOK:
COACH: Len Bruso, 2nd year
LAST YEAR'S RECORD: 6-11-1

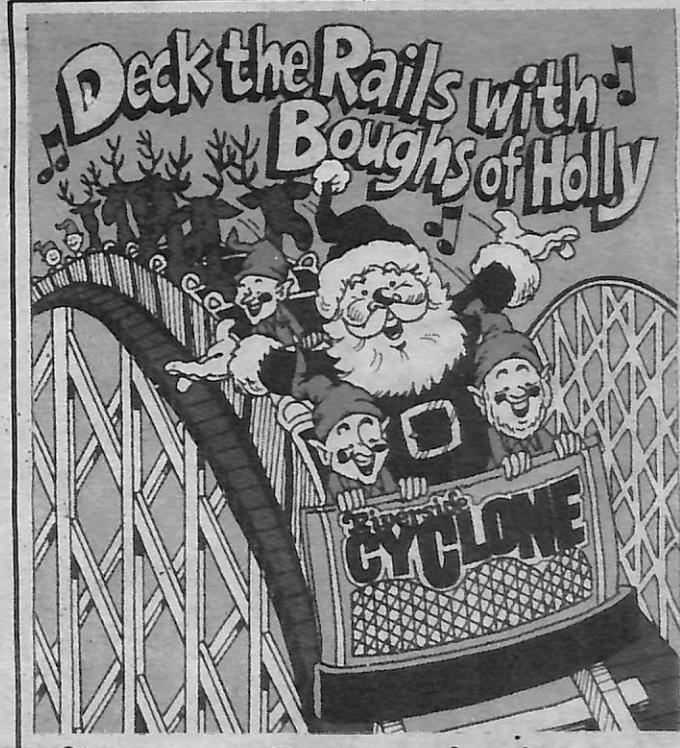
RETURNERS: Dan Bryden (center), Lee Christopoulos (defense), Jim Laudato (wing), Tony Young (defense), Scott Pearson (center), Tom Mesick (goalie), all seniors; Paul Karam (wing), Rick Parolo (wing), Dennis Punch (defense), all juniors; Steve Silva (defense), David Laudato (goalie), sophomores

PROMISING NEWCOMERS: Dan Asselin, Dan Feugil, Brendan Blake, Mike Shaughnessy, and Dave Noonan

STRENGTHS: Defense and goaltending look good; Parolo will cause opposition fits again

WEAKNESS: inexperience, balanced scoring

OUTLOOK: Fair



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CU New Leader In Tri-Parish Bowling

After three weeks of rolling in Round Two of the Monday night Tri-Parish Bowling League, Catholic University, a team that quietly moved into the first division in Round One, has assumed the command chair with nine wins. Right behind is last week's leader, Villanova (2nd place-8½ wins), followed by a host of teams with seven wins.

CU used a four-game sweep of lowly St. Anselm (11th place-3 wins) to leap into first place. Winning for CU were Class B women's scoring leader VENETTA SNYDER (287-93.3 average), MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (273), ERNIE BLAIR (a very big 340), and CU captain JIM SNYDER (306). He blasted St. A's distraught captain, VI MASSOIA (265). The only St. A's roller over the 300-pinfall was former Agawam High basketball bruiser RAYMOND BARBIERI (300), in a losing effort to Blair.

Villanova received a tough tussle from Holy Cross (10th place-4½ wins), in a 2½ to 1½ game victory. Villanova winners were DEBBIE GEORGE (270) and CHERYL PRZESZLO (290). HC's JOHN MLINEK, the Men's Class B scoring leader, outdueled FRANK "The Lordly Barber" RESCIGNO, 304-298, and HC captain STU STORK really spanked Villanova anchorman RENEE JURY, 334-288. Storkie is the Open Class leader with a 117.13 average. Rescigno rolled third this week, wanting no part of ole Storkie. Of course, this left Renee Jury to the wolves while Frankie was hiding.

Somehow, AL "The Fearsome One" MOCCIO has got the Georgetown (3rd place-7 wins) express on the move in the right direction again. In Round One, the defending Grand Champions were used plain awful. G-Town helped sooth a previously seething Moccio at the expense of last place St. Michael (3 wins), four wins to none in week three.

G-Town winners were JAY LAGODITZ (a fine night of 274), SANDY PRZESZLO (a solid 319), and Moccio (354). Moccio completely dominated a helpless St. Mike's captain, MIKE O'CONNELL (289). The only St. Mike's winner was the steady STEVE DEVANEY (294), who was left wondering what's the curse that continues to follow this team.

Fordham (4th place-7 wins) took it on the chin vs. St. Louis (9th place-5 wins). Ole St. Lou really needed the three victories in this one to get back on the right track. St. Lou winners were FRANK CERPOVICZ (245-he faced no opponent as Fordham had to forfeit the lead-off spot), JANICE MOCCIO (a very good 307), STEVE KAJKA (a fine, 319-316 victory over Men's Class AA scoring leader PAUL DEZIELLE), and captain DEBBIE POIRIER, the Women's Class AAA leader (321).

Debbie's match vs. Fordham captain ANN O'CONNELL is always a tough one, as Ann rolled a 310 on this night. "I really look forward to this match every round," said Ann afterwards. However, it was Debbie's team who dominated, and Fordham's chance to take the lead in the round fizzled.

Boston College (6th place-7 wins) used three victories over St. Mary (5th place-7 wins) to really tighten the race. The lone BC winner was PAUL LAGODITZ,

who showed no mercy whatsoever to poor LORI JURY of St. Mary's, 339-257. Lori is a newcomer and felt like one after this whipping. And this match proved to be the difference. St. Mary's had three winners, PAULINE DEPALO (265), FELIX PEPPER (278), and captain FRED MORASSI (345). However, the margin of victories for this trio was simply not enough. BC captain JOHN O'CONNELL, the Men's Class AAA scoring leader (113.40), was a little off, but still kept his team in the position to take three wins (317).

In the final match of the night, Notre Dame (7th place-6 wins) took full advantage of the absence of Loyola captain STEVE ROVITHIS (no where to be found) in a four-game sweep. Loyola rollers held their own, including GAIL BLAIR (266) and JEAN BUONICONTI (307). However, GEORGE LANE of ND maintained the huge ND margin by outpointing hard-working STEP STEPANIAN, 330-313. Lane is in the running for "Rookie of the Year" honors with Steve Kajka of St. Louis. ND captain JOHN RESCIGNO, with the luxury of not having an opponent, fired a nifty 327 to seal Loyola's fate - a four-game sweep.

Early Deadline!!!

Due to the Xmas holiday, our deadline for next week's edition is Saturday, December 22nd, at 11:00 a.m. Please be prompt so we can better serve you. If you have any questions, please call the office, 786-7747




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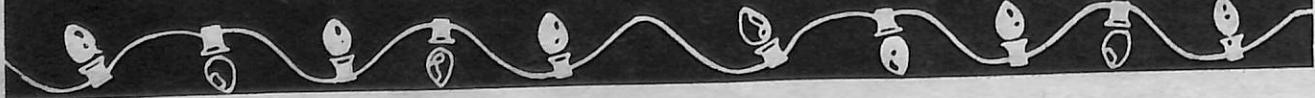
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MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM FIRE DEPARTMENT are being whipped into shape by Paula Welker, co-owner of the Fitness First Health Club in Feeding Hills Center. Here, Paula leads several firefighters in an aerobics workout at the Springfield Street Fire Station. *Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.*

AHS Soccer Alumni Get The Boot!

How does that saying go - "People should be respectful of their elders?"

For the Division I Western Mass. champion Agawam High soccer Brownies, the Annual Soccer Alumni game, played Sunday, November 30th, at Harmon Smith Field, it was the culmination of an unbelievable fall after registering a 7-3 victory over the Alumni.

The Alumni came into the game not really knowing what to expect - other than the Brownies were "darn good," as one team member told us. "You have to remember," said Michael Bodurtha, a 1974 graduate of Agawam High and a three-year team member, "when many of us played (Alumni), the thought of winning a Division I championship would have been unbelievable. Many of us come from the leaner years of Agawam soccer; still, we're proud to have been part of the program."

Bodurtha, by the way, was the school's first All-Western Mass. selection (during his senior year, fall of 1973). Bodurtha decided to stay home this year rather than play against "all those young legs."

The Alumni found the 1986 Brownies to sport plenty of skills and speed. To further the Alumni's anxiety, they did not possess a regular goaltender who had previously performed for AHS; therefore, fullbacks were used to guard the nets.

Walter Willard, a former teacher at the high school who was the school's first soccer coach gave this observation of the game. "Despite not having a regular goalie, and despite the fact that our old bones didn't appreciate the cold weather, I thought we did ok. There's not doubt about it - we would have played much better if the weather had been warmer."

SEE ALUMNI - Page 52.....



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1975 AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE Marty Davilli (center) battles for the ball during first half action of the Annual Alumni Soccer Game at Harmon Smith Field. The boys' varsity team prevailed, 7-3. Adver-

tiser News photo by Jack Devine.



A WORLD CUP FOOT? NO WAY! Alumni team member John Devine, son of *AAN* staff photographer Jack Devine, attempts to boot the ball upfield. Devine tried his luck as a goaltender against the onslaught of the Agawam High boys' varsity. Devine is a 1973 graduate of Agawam High. *Advertiser News* photo by Jack Devine.



CHRIS FUCHS, Jr., 22 month-old son of 1973 Agawam High graduate Chris Fuchs, shows his dad how it's done at the Annual AHS Alumni Soccer Game at Harmon Smith Field.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

ALUMNI LOSE, From Page 50...

Willard also noted that junior varsity coach Billy O'Brien, Jr., a 1982 AHS graduate who also played varsity soccer for the school, turned "traitor" when he played with the varsity.

Willard said, "Billy scored a goal for them and also blocked a sure-goal for us. I hope he's happy about that. Besides, the game was fixed. The referees were clearly on their side. Not only did we have our age to contend with, but the balls were too soft as well. It was just too much adversity for us old guys to overcome."

The Brownie varsity took a commanding, 3-0 lead at the intermission and never looked back (although the present Brownies were rather amused at what they saw chasing them all over the pitch).

The Alumni scored three times in the second half, although all the goals were sandwiched around four more varsity goals. "There's no doubt they (the varsity) were really trying to rub it in. Just because they won the Western Mass. championship they think they can pound on us poor old guys," said Willard. "But just

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OUR
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PAGE

wait until next year."

Scoring for the Alumni were 1984 graduate Brian Long (assisted by 1982 graduate Kevin Kamyk); Willard, who coached from 1968-1974, assisted by 1986 graduate Craig Birchenuough; and 1975 graduate Marty Davilli (unassisted).

Doug Borgatti, a 1970 AHS graduate who played under Willard, helped to coach the Alumni this year. Borgatti said he was still nursing a sore ankle received in a karate match - the rumors around the field, however, were that once Borgatti took a look at the talented Brownies in the warm-up, he decided to sit this one out.

Old-timers for the Alumni who played, included: Walter Willard (coach-1968-1974), Tom Depalo (1973), John Devine (1973), Chris Fuchs (1973), Dave Bodurtha (1975), Paul Dahlke (1976), Tim Scanlon (1978), Rob Thomas (1979), Jim Martin (1980), Tom Sipotowski (1980), Tony Caputo (1981), George Russell (1981), Will Fairle (1983), Dave Stratton (1984), Scott Henderson (1984), Mike McCarthy (1986), Mike Parolo (1986), and Peter Sibilia (1986).

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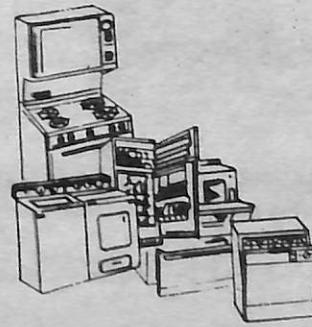
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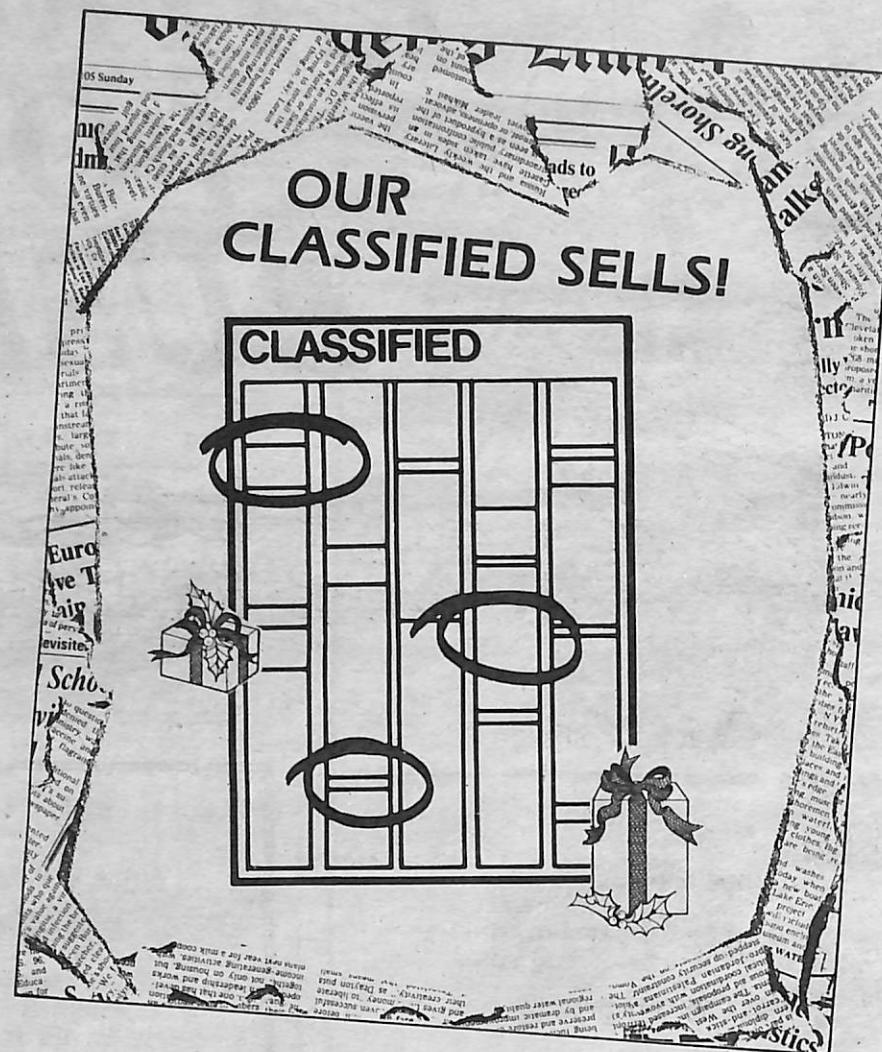
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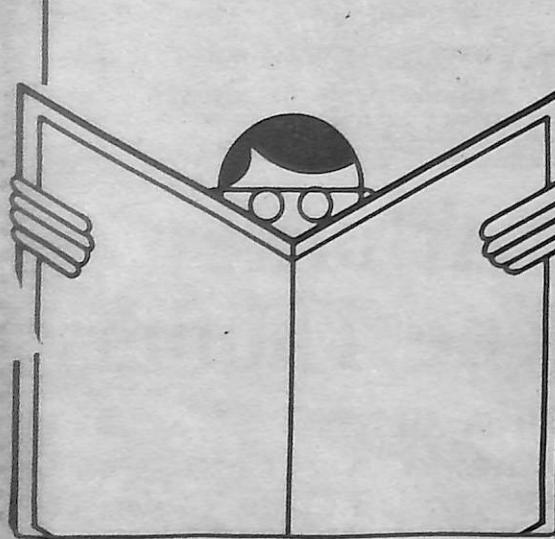
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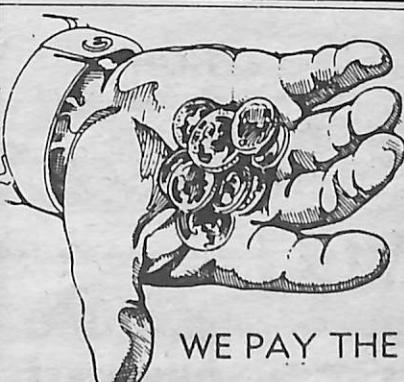
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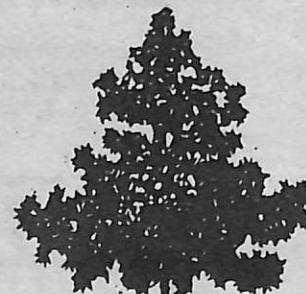
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